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QUEEN VICTORIA:

HER LIFE AND JUBILEE.





OUR SOVEREIGN LADY
QUEEN VICTORIA:
HER LIFE AND JUBILEE.

BY

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"THE WAR IN EGYPT AND THE SUDAN," ETC.

ILLUSTRATED BY A SERIES OF HIGHLY-FINISHED ETCHINGS.

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P R E F A C E.

The scope and intention of this book were so fully set forth in the prospectus, that there would seem to be little occasion for a preface, except for the purpose of submitting to the reader that the indications given at the commencement have been fulfilled with the completion of the work.

Its design was to commemorate the completion of the Jubilee of her Majesty's beneficent reign, by faithfully recording the story of her life;—not alone that aspect of it in which the crown, the orb, and the sceptre are most significant, but chiefly the social, the domestic, the gentle life which has been an example that all might appreciate—the life of our Sovereign Lady enthroned in the will and affection of her people, with whom she has ever been in sympathy.

There was no proposal to include in these pages an account of the history of the past fifty years; but it would have been impossible to leave unnoticed the many important events and significant occurrences—turning points of our national experience—in which the Queen and the Royal Family have taken a direct and personal part.

The end which has been kept in view was to give such events their due proportion in illustrating the ability and the

PREFACE.

happy characteristics for which her Majesty has always been distinguished. The more immediate intention of the narrative is to present a biographical and not an historical record; the story of a Sovereign who has lived in the daylight of public honour and regard, who has had no secrets from her people, but has, with gracious simplicity, admitted them to share her joys, her sorrows, and those domestic intimacies and avocations of which she has herself written in the confidence which comes of her own unbroken sympathy with the troubles, the efforts, and the aspirations of her subjects.

A few early pages of this work contain a brief account of the remarkable events by which her Majesty came to the throne, and that slight record includes some references to the public and court life of the period, which are significant of salutary changes largely referable to the Queen's personal character and influence. A few of the later pages are chiefly devoted to recording some particulars of the public rejoicings and memorials by which the Jubilee of the reign of our beloved Sovereign has been happily celebrated. This, it is believed, will also have a definite significance in a work designed to be a faithful chronicle, wherein it is hoped some reflections of the gracious presence of our Sovereign Lady may be discerned.

THOMAS ARCHER.

LONDON, 1888.

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CHAPTER VIII.

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THE aspect of political affairs in this country had undergone considerable changes during the period which we have just been considering. When in 1866 the question of parliamentary reform had been brought forward by Mr. Gladstone, who was chancellor of the exchequer and leader of the House of Commons in Lord John Russell's government, it was proposed to reduce the county franchise from a £50 to a £1*4* rental, and to give a vote in either county or borough to any one who could show a deposit of £50 in a bank. The borough franchise was to be reduced from £10 to £7, and there was a provision by which lodgers whose rental was £10 would be entitled to the franchise. The proposed measure, which scarcely went far enough for the Radical section of the reform party, especially as it was not accompanied with a scheme for redistribution, was discussed with considerable asperity by the Conservatives; and though the main body of Liberals were anxious that it

should pass, a small section of the Liberal party was opposed to it as being democratic and dangerous. This clique, which included Mr. Horsman and Mr. Lowe, was compared by Mr. Bright to the desperate or discontented men who assembled with David in the Cave of Adullam, and this was such an apt illustration that the dissentients were thereafter known as "Adullamites;" but they were powerful enough to turn the balance and bring about the defeat of the bill. The voting on an amendment gave the government only a narrow majority of five, and though this was discouraging, Lord John Russell declared that the measure should be proceeded with. After further heated discussion, an amendment proposed by Lord Dunkellin to substitute a rating for a rental qualification was carried by a majority of eleven votes. The ministry resigned, and her Majesty called upon Lord Derby to form a government. The new ministry included Mr. Disraeli, Lord Stanley (the present Lord Derby), the Earl of Carnarvon, General Peel, Viscount Cranborne (now the Marquis of Salisbury), and Sir Stafford Northcote. But the session was drawing to a close, and though it was foreseen that the subject of parliamentary reform could not be long deferred, the government announced that it would not be dealt with before the prorogation, which took place on the 10th of August.

A vigorous agitation was maintained by the two associations known as the National Reform Union and the Reform League, and great demonstrative meetings were held throughout the country. These meetings were well organized, and were mostly conducted in a peaceable and orderly manner, though there were, of course, exceptions, where the proceedings were interrupted by disorderly persons, or by the excitement produced by violent harangues.

The Reform League was a vast organization, and was largely associated with several of the great societies of trades-unions, and it had branches not only in various parts of the country but in the chief districts of London, so that the opponents of parliamentary reform may well have regarded it as a formidable association; and when the committee of the League made arrangements for holding a large demonstration in Hyde Park, where it was expected a vast number of persons would assemble from different quarters of the metropolis, notices signed by Sir Richard Mayne, the head of the metropolitan police, were posted in every neighbourhood, stating that on the evening fixed for the demonstration the park gates would be closed to the public at five o'clock.

On the appointed afternoon, the 23d of July, a number of processions from various quarters of London passed through the streets with banners and bands, and by the hour named had assembled in a vast multitude at the Marble Arch, to find the park closed against them.

Mr. Edmund Beales, who had been revising barrister for Middlesex, Colonel Dickson, Mr. George Brooke, and Mr. P. A. Taylor, who were the more prominent leaders of the League, were there in a carriage; and Mr. Beales, passing through the ranks of the League, approached the nearest officer of police among the mounted constables, and requested admission to the park for himself and his friends. This was refused, and he and his companions returned to their carriage, and, followed by as many of the enormous assembly as could be formed in procession, returned along Oxford Street to Trafalgar Square, where one or two brief speeches were made, and two resolutions were passed: one urging the prosecution of lawful and constitutional means for the extension of the franchise, and the other thanking

Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright for remaining faithful to the cause while others had basely deserted it. It was computed that above 100,000 persons had followed the leaders from the park; but an immense crowd remained, and, moving westward, formed in a dense mass in Park Lane, where they extended close up to the park railings. Whether those barriers were already loose, or whether they gave way to the great pressure of the crowd without any intention on the part of those who were swaying against them, was never quite settled; but at anyrate, when they once began to yield they were levelled almost immediately, and the multitude at once swarmed into the park, the front ranks irresistibly impelled by those behind. Unhappily the police, though quite unable to prevent the advance of such a body of people, many of whom were themselves helpless against the pressure that urged them on, began to strike with their truncheons, and considered it to be their duty to lay about them with a vigour which inflicted serious injuries on a number of persons, and roused a spirit of retaliation which led to resistance with sticks and stones, and with some of the levelled railings, which made very dangerous weapons. It was found necessary to call out a detachment of foot-guards and a body of life-guards to disperse the crowds by marching hither and thither amongst them. A blunder had been committed, and there were apprehensions of riotous meetings. The action of the home secretary, representing the government, had aroused much indignation, and Mr. Walpole, seeing that the case of "the authorities" was not a very good one, invited the leaders of the League to confer with him. Mr. Beales, who represented that the public had been exasperated by having been violently and unlawfully prevented from the peaceable exercise of what had hitherto been regarded as an unquestionable right of meeting,

undertook with his friends to do what they could to allay the popular resentment, if the government would withdraw the military and the police; and the home secretary promised that if there were no disturbance and no attack upon property there should be no further display of military or police force.

The leaders of the League then made known through all the branches of the association that no further attempt would be made to hold a meeting in Hyde Park until the afternoon of the 30th of July, at six o'clock, by an arrangement with the government; and an assembly was accordingly held on that day without any sign of serious disturbance.

It was a troublous year, for, in addition to the excitement among the promoters of parliamentary reform and the blunder which had nearly converted an orderly demonstration into a dangerous series of riots, the conspiracies of the Fenians had begun to take the form of practical crime. There was serious commercial depression, partly caused by the feeling of insecurity because of the Fenian outrages, but more immediately attributable to the failure of several great speculative financial undertakings, some of which were supported by fraudulent transactions. After the collapse of banks and public companies, a crisis seemed to be reached by the insolvency of the great discounting firm of Overend, Gurney & Co., whose liabilities amounted to the enormous sum of £19,000,000, and involved numbers of wealthy persons and thousands of families in ruin. To meet these disasters the government gave authority to the Bank of England for an additional issue at the rate of ten per cent discount from the 11th of May to the 17th of August. Though commercial credit was shaken, the resources of the country were so great that the financial position was rapidly retrieved after a year of anxiety and depression, the national

revenues being so sound as to give no occasion for national apprehension, our exports having increased fourteen per cent, and notwithstanding decreased taxation the total revenue being £68,785,622, or not half a million less than that of the previous year. Still the year was a gloomy one, and was made more depressing by the prevalence of cholera in the east end of London, where funds which were raised from a general subscription were applied to the relief of the sufferers or the assistance of widows and orphans.

The chief political event of 1867 was the passing of a reform bill brought forward by the Conservative government, who had to adopt measures which were evidently on the lines of the Liberal programme. The debate on the bill was so prolonged, and so many Liberal amendments were carried and adopted, that the entire measure only passed by a small majority in the first week in August. It conferred the franchise in boroughs in England and Wales on every man of full age and not legally incapacitated, who should be a householder (resident occupier) for twelve months previous to the last day in July in any year, and had been assessed for and paid the rates for the relief of the poor; and as no person other than the occupier was to be assessed for these rates it gave votes to a vast number of persons who had previously compounded with their landlords for the payment of rates, and were therefore excluded from the franchise. This admission of the "compound householder" was one of the most satisfactory provisions of the bill. Every lodger who for the twelve months should occupy an unfurnished lodging of the annual value of £10 also received the vote. In counties the franchise was conferred on tenants, occupiers, or owners of premises of the annual ratable value of £12, or if leasehold or copyhold of £5. It was calculated that the number

of electors in boroughs would be increased by 700,000, chiefly among the working-classes in manufacturing districts and large towns. The representation of minorities was provided for by an amendment in the House of Lords to the effect that in constituencies returning four members an elector could only vote for three, and in constituencies with three members for two only; this, it was believed, would prevent the monopoly of the representation by very small majorities. The scheme of distribution took one member from every borough of not more than 100,000 inhabitants which had previously returned two members—a change which gave thirty-eight seats for distribution, and these, with fifty-two seats taken from boroughs disfranchised for corruption, made it possible to divide the large county constituencies and to include in the representation, places which had grown into importance.

The passing of what was practically a measure taken from the Liberal policy by a Conservative government was objected to by the Earl of Carnarvon, Viscount Cranborne, and General Peel, and they withdrew from the ministry. The bill as applied to Scotland provided a £14 franchise for counties, and borough and lodger franchises similar to those of England. In Ireland the occupation franchise in towns was reduced from £8 to £4, the county franchise remaining unchanged, and the lodger franchise was made the same as in England and Scotland. But these bills did not pass till July, 1868, and early in that session Lord Derby had resigned, and Mr. Disraeli being called upon by her Majesty to form a ministry, had maintained the same cabinet, the only changes being the appointment of Mr. Ward Hunt to take his place as chancellor of the exchequer, and Sir Hugh Cairns to succeed Lord Chelmsford as lord-chancellor.

The measure of parliamentary reform which had been passed

under a Conservative government was undoubtedly more extensive than that which the Liberals had striven to effect against the opposition of those who were the supporters of the Conservative party, and as a general election was imminent it was supposed by many, and by Mr. Disraeli among them, that the Conservative candidates would reap the benefit. It turned out, however, that though there were some extraordinary changes in the representation of various constituencies, many of the traditional Liberal seats being lost, and none of the new "working-men's candidates" being successful at the polls, there was a Liberal majority of 120; and the result was that the Queen sent for Mr. Gladstone to form his first ministry, and a very strong Liberal government came into power.

The unsettled state of Ireland and the outrages perpetrated by the Fenians had occasioned much uneasiness, especially as a band of men said to be headed by Irishmen who had been officers in the American army attempted to seize the arsenal at Chester, and very nearly succeeded. Their next exploit in England was a desperate attempt to rescue some of their confederates who had been arrested in Manchester and were being removed in the prison van; and in London their reckless agents endeavoured to blow down the wall of Clerkenwell Prison by igniting a barrel of gunpowder beneath it, and thus caused the death and injury of a number of persons who had nothing whatever to do with them or their alleged grievances. The criminal action of some of the professed representatives of trades-unions in the manufacturing districts also caused much public indignation, and strikes of large bodies of workmen—even among those who repudiated the lawless violence which had been used against employers and workmen who refused to yield to the demands of the societies—caused an enormous loss of trade

and great suffering among the labouring classes themselves. Yet statements of the national finances and the evidence of commercial progress as shown by the statistics of trade were not discouraging. With regard to Ireland, the attention of parliament having been directed to a proposal for the disestablishment of the Episcopal Church there, a commission of inquiry had been appointed to examine into its revenues and administration, and Mr. Gladstone had brought forward a proposition for its disestablishment, which was carried, after a prolonged discussion, by a majority of sixty-five. It was on this defeat that the Conservative government determined to advise her Majesty to dissolve parliament; and when the general election resulted in the return of a Liberal government under Mr. Gladstone, the Irish Church Bill was the principal measure of the session of 1869. A commission was to be appointed in which the property of the Irish Church, subject to life interests, was to be vested, so that technically and legally, disendowment would be commenced without delay, while disestablishment was to be deferred till the 1st of January, 1871. The discussion of the bill was earnest and protracted, and it was twice sent up to the Lords, where amendments had been proposed which its supporters declared would have rendered some of its most important clauses ineffectual; but it was eventually passed on the 23d of July.

In the following year Mr. Gladstone introduced a bill for improving the tenure of land in Ireland, for the purpose of giving facilities to tenants for purchasing cultivated lands, to assist owners of waste lands to prepare them for occupation, and to allow compensation to tenants for suitable improvements. It was hoped that this bill would have the effect of gradually satisfying the demands of Irish tenants and bringing about a more equitable relation between the cultivators and the

owners of the soil, and that with the practical dissolution of the claims of the Episcopal Church in Ireland this land bill would prove to the Irish people that the government desired to remove the causes of disaffection and rebellion of which Irish representatives had long complained.

Another measure passed in the session of 1871 was the Trades-union Act, which, by defining what constituted legal or illegal interference, greatly reduced the violence and disorder that had accompanied the strikes of workmen and labourers belonging to trade societies. Disputes on the subject of wages and hours of labour continued, but a more reasonable, or at any rate a less implacable spirit was manifested; and though in several serious instances the protracted refusal of employés to resume work until exorbitant conditions were complied with, drove their industries to other parts of the country, or enabled foreign competitors to supersede them, there arose a more rational desire for arbitration between masters and workmen, and the attention of the manufacturing interests in many instances was turned to the principles of co-operative industry. The demand for increased wages and a reduction of the hours of labour was, however, associated with an inquiry into the condition of the labouring classes, and it eventually extended to the agricultural districts.

We have already seen that the important measure which was developed into a scheme for national education had been so modified in some of its clauses as to secure the support of a large number of those who had at first opposed it on the ground of the facilities which it might give for sectarian as apart from merely secular teaching.

The passing of the University Tests Bill was another advance in the rapid stride that had been made in the direction

of national education and religious liberty. The compulsory payment of church-rates had been put an end to by a bill introduced by Mr. Gladstone in August, 1866, but not passed till July, 1868; though the question had been brought forward repeatedly for successive years, and it was acknowledged on all sides that the exercise of the power to compel persons to pay for the maintenance of a church from the doctrinal teachings of which they conscientiously dissented, had long been a scandal and a cause of weakness, not only to the church but to the cause of true religion. Mr. Gladstone's bill went no further than to make the payment of church-rates voluntary instead of compulsory, and long before that bill was passed the levying of such rates had been discontinued in a large number of parishes.

It will be seen what a vast expansion of both civil and religious freedom was accomplished at this period, and in 1872 the independence of electors was protected by the passing of the Ballot Bill, which, having been defeated by the House of Lords in the previous year, was brought up again and passed, notwithstanding an endeavour in the Upper House to make its provisions optional with the constituencies. Another measure intended to put an end to the remains of a long-lingering injustice and cruelty, was the bill which came into force in 1870 for the abolition of imprisonment for debt; but though this act was instrumental in liberating a number of debtors who were in prison under the former law, and provided against imprisonment for debt or default of payment, with *certain exceptions*, those exceptions were numerous. They included ordinary debtors of sums under £50, who might be ordered to pay by a judge or a court, and therefore imprisonment remains to this day for a number of unfortunate small debtors, who suffer, not under the name of prisoners for *debt*, but for *contempt of court*, and, pro-

fessing to be unable to obey the commands of the judge to satisfy their creditors, are locked up until they find the means, while in prison, to "purge their contempt."

But in another direction there had been energetic demands for reform. With the startling changes which were taking place on the continent of Europe considerations of the conditions of our own national defences became more serious, not only with regard to their increase but to their constitution, and particularly to the government and regulation of the army.

The need for some effectual system of army reform had occupied the anxious attention of Prince Albert, and there can be little doubt that he would have expressed decided and emphatic approval of the proposition which was now made by Mr. Cardwell, the minister for war, to abolish the system of attaining promotion or position in the army by purchase. The sale and purchase of commissions had become as much a recognized traffic as the sale and purchase of a house or the good-will of a business, and the regulation price of a commission at the Horse Guards was frequently much lower than its selling value. A large body of officers who had purchased their own commissions for considerable sums were of course ready to oppose the suggestion to abolish this state of things; another section, who were not likely to attain promotion except by the power of the purse, were also averse to it; and a third party professed to hold to the belief that the sale of commissions was the best method of retaining them in the hands of those for whom they were best suited. The bill passed the House of Commons; but the Lords carried an amendment to the effect that the proposal could not be considered till a more comprehensive scheme was placed before them. It was evident that this was intended to hang up the bill for some indefinite period, and finally to shelve

it altogether. There was nothing to be hoped for from the Lords; and therefore, to the great consternation of them and their supporters, Mr. Gladstone, at the risk of being charged with an unconstitutional and unprecedented stroke of policy, went to the Queen herself.

The purchase system had originated in a royal warrant, which made it a privilege; and he therefore applied to her Majesty, advising her to aid the reformation of the army by cancelling the warrant. It was very simple. The Queen consented, and the purchase of commissions was made illegal. There was a great outcry against the minister, of course; but there was much rejoicing among a great body of poor but able and efficient officers, many of whom had been passed over when wealthy aspirants to military honours had bought the promotion which they had themselves hoped for. The House of Lords, finding that nothing would be gained by rejecting the remainder of the bill, which, in fact, provided compensation to the holders of purchased commissions, passed the measure with considerable promptitude, and with a consolatory vote of censure on the ministry.

The momentous events which had changed the relative attitude of every country in Europe, and the necessarily close attention which foreign affairs demanded from her Majesty and the government, have already been noticed, and it will be seen that domestic politics were equally significant. The measures which were proposed and adopted during a brief period were of enormous importance, and the great changes which they involved were regarded by many with apprehension. Even some of the steady friends of progress began to speak in accents of trepidation, lest the rapidity with which the Liberal government had opened new issues in the name of reform should hurry the

country into a race that would exhaust its powers, and leave it struggling and breathless. There was no real occasion for such fears, and the accounts of the national finances were more encouraging than they had been in previous years; but there had arisen a feeling that a pause would be beneficial, that a Conservative government would enable the nation to pull itself together—"to rest and be thankful." There was no immediate great question on which the Liberal party would be sure to unite; the Nonconformists were still somewhat dissatisfied with the provisions of the Education Act, and there was faintness in the Liberal body, partly arising from a feeling of distrust of Mr. Lowe, who had shown want of tact in his proposals as chancellor of the exchequer.

There were whispers everywhere of "a Conservative re-action," and of a desire for change, and Mr. Gladstone and the cabinet were not altogether averse to test the public feeling, as the recent tendency to support independent opinions and the want of a compact organization among the Liberals had apparently diminished that unanimity which is necessary for the maintenance of a strong party. This was the position in 1873, when Mr. Gladstone undertook the office of chancellor of the exchequer in addition to the premiership, a determination which increased public confidence, though everybody wondered at the vigour of a statesman who resolutely discharged the duties of two great offices of the state. There were other changes in the ministry both at the beginning of the session and at a later date, and it was afterwards known that preparations were being made for a dissolution of parliament in 1874, after the measures of educational and ecclesiastical reform had been further completed. It was on a proposal for abolishing the exclusive union of Dublin University and Trinity College,

and for affiliating several other Roman Catholic seminaries to the university, that the government was defeated, many of the Liberals following Mr. Fawcett, who thought he saw in the scheme an inclination unduly to conciliate the Roman Catholic priesthood. Mr. Gladstone, however, was able so clearly to explain and to defend his position that, on a division, there was only a majority of three against him; and though the ministry resigned and Mr. Disraeli was sent for to form another administration, the Conservatives were not strong enough to take up the work of government, and the Liberal leader had to be recalled.

Another important and far-reaching measure was passed under the title of the Judicature Bill, founded on the report of a commission of inquiry appointed in 1869; it had already been brought forward by Lord Selborne, and its results, as we know, were to unite the higher courts of justice in one great tribunal, the operations of which were to supersede the former restrictions and distinctions between courts of law and of equity.

This may be said to have been the concluding great measure of the renewed Liberal administration of 1873. Mr. Gladstone, unwilling to attempt further legislation on the lines which had distinguished the previous session unless he could count on the support of a strong majority in the country as well as in parliament, determined, much to the general surprise, to announce a dissolution. The financial record of his administration was such as to demand confidence, for there was a surplus of five millions at the commencement of 1874, and the national debt had been reduced by twenty-six millions, though taxation had been reduced twelve millions, ten millions had been spent in buying the telegraphs as arranged by the previous ministry, two millions had been voted to the army during the Franco-Prussian war,

and half the *Alabama* claim of three millions and a quarter had been paid to America. But the causes already mentioned were sufficient to counterbalance the claims of the Liberal government, and the result of the election (the first general election by ballot, and therefore rapidly completed in February) was to give to the Conservative party a substantial majority. Her Majesty again directed Mr. Disraeli to form a ministry; Mr. Gladstone, who was much exhausted by the severe exertions he had undergone, retiring for a time from the leadership of the Liberal ranks in favour of Lord Hartington.

The Queen had to deplore the loss of other loyal servants who had been associated with many of the happiest or the keenest recollections of her life. Professor Sedgwick, the aged geologist, whose humorous description of the royal visit to the university museum has been already mentioned, had departed from the scene of his quiet investigations. Sir Henry Holland, the eminent physician, the friend of statesmen and princes, had died at the age of eighty-five on his return from a visit to Russia. Lord Lytton, the brilliant novelist; Sir Edward Landseer, the famous artist so well known and esteemed by her Majesty and the Prince Consort; the witty and accomplished Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Winchester, and his political opponent Lord Westbury, had disappeared from the different but concentric circles where they were known and honoured. The Earl of Derby, "the Rupert of Debate," who retired from the leadership of the Conservative party after the passing of the Reform Bill in 1868, had died in the following year at the age of seventy-one, and his son, the present Lord Derby, had accepted the office of foreign secretary in Mr. Disraeli's ministry in 1874.

That year, as we have seen, commenced with an event of

deep domestic interest to the royal family—the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh and the daughter of the Emperor of Russia—an alliance which was regarded by the nation with mingled sentiments as one which might have some indirect influence on the doubtful attitude occasioned by the alleged designs of Russian policy.

In 1872 Lord Mayo, the Viceroy of India, had visited the camp of exercise at Delhi, and received a visit from the King of Siam at Calcutta, when intelligence reached him of serious disturbances in Burmah. On his way thither he was murdered by an Afghan fanatic, and was succeeded in the vice-regal office by Lord Northbrook. Russia having concluded a commercial treaty with the ruler of Turkestan, which had recently seceded from the Chinese Empire, was using the opportunity to push forward troops to the north-western frontier of India and to invade Khiva. The Khan of Khiva applied to Lord Northbrook to mediate with Russia; but all that could be done was to advise the khan to comply with any just demands that might be made upon him. It was impossible for our Indian government to undertake the protection of semi-barbarous tribes under lawless chiefs in remote Central Asia, especially as outbreaks of the frontier tribes and seditious attempts in the Punjab required watchful attention.

In the following year there was famine in India caused by deficiency in the rice crops in the provinces of Bengal and Behar, and the government had to use strenuous efforts to provide for the starving population by a system of relief works, which were established, under the direction of the viceroy, by Sir George Campbell and other officers for the conveyance and distribution of food to the distressed districts. Meanwhile the Russian forces advanced on Khiva, and when Lord Granville

(then in the foreign office) asked for an explanation of the intentions of the czar, Count Schuvaloff was sent here with assurances that, after exacting retribution from the ruler and people of Khiva for the offences committed against Russian subjects, the troops would be withdrawn without occupying the territory. A negotiation which had been commenced between Lord Clarendon and Prince Gortschakoff, by which the Russian government agreed not to interfere with the affairs and dependencies of Afghanistan, was also concluded, and the boundaries by which England had defined the Afghan territory were accepted; but as usual the latest Russian despatch on the subject was so worded as to be afterwards interpreted to assume that the agreement included a guarantee by our government against any encroachment by Shere Ali or his successors on their northern neighbours.

As regards Khiva, Russian assurances were worthless. The Russian army under General Kaufmann marched through the desert under great privations, and occupied the capital without a siege; the khan, who had fled, returned, and surrendered to the Russian general; the Russian and other prisoners who had been kept in slavery were liberated, and slavery was abolished. So far there was no breach of faith; but instead of the independence of the territory being restored, the khan was compelled to declare himself in all respects a vassal of the czar, a fortress was built on the right bank of the river Oxus, and from the Oxus to the boundary of Russian Turkestan a large expanse of territory was annexed, a treaty between Russia and Bokhara supplementing that between Russia and Khiva.

This, then, was the position of affairs just previous to the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh and the Grand-duchess

Marie on the 23d of January, 1874; and it is not too much to say, that though there had been much serious distrust of Russian declarations, and a large element of suspicion remained, the people of this country were willing to make a less doubtful estimate of the policy of the czar because of the alliance of a prince of our royal house with his only daughter, who was a favourite with the Russian people. At all events there was no lack of loyal and hearty welcome to the bride and bridegroom when on the 7th of March they landed at Gravesend, whither the Duke of Connaught had gone, and with Earl Sydney, lord-lieutenant of the county, went on board the *Victoria and Albert* to receive his brother and the bride. The scene at Gravesend resembled that of the reception of the Princess Alexandra; the town was gay with banners and triumphal arches, flowers strewed the path along the pier, and hearty and unaffected acclamations gave a warmer expression of welcome than could be signified by the decoration of the streets.

Equally spontaneous and effective was the reception given to the newly-married pair on their arrival at Windsor, where they were received at the station by the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the other members of the royal family except the Duke of Connaught, who accompanied the bride and bridegroom. As the train appeared in sight her Majesty went from her waiting-room to the platform. The Duke of Edinburgh, who wore his captain's uniform with the grand cordon of a Russian order, sprang from the carriage directly it stopped and affectionately embraced his mother, then turned again to the carriage and assisted the Grand-duchess, who with a quick impulse ran forward and kissed the Queen, receiving a warm and tender response to the salute. The Princess and the Prince of Wales also saluted their new sister-in-law, and then the royal

party entered the state carriage, and with their escort of Life Guards drove to the castle, around which loyal manifestations were continued. In the evening Windsor was illuminated. A great bonfire was lighted and half a ton of fireworks were discharged, the bonfire and fireworks having been contributed by the parliamentary representative of the borough.

When five days afterwards the Queen and the Princess Beatrice, with the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, arrived from Windsor at Paddington station, and drove in state to Buckingham Palace, the demonstrations of welcome, the decorated streets, the expressions of hearty good-will and affectionate wishes, were equally enthusiastic, and, in spite of a March wind and falling snow, the main thoroughfares were crowded with a multitude who appreciated the kindly determination of the royal party to occupy an open carriage. Again the people looked upon their Queen, and by their loyal sympathy participated in the joy that they desired for her in this new relationship. At every open stand-point the vast assembly seemed to concentrate in denser numbers, and as the cortege approached the gate of the palace, and the strains of the Russian hymn and the national anthem accompanied the clash of arms of the guard of honour and the mighty acclamations of the people, the scene was not without grandeur and was certainly distinguished by genuine sentiment. This was further accentuated when, a few minutes afterwards, the Queen appeared in the balcony with the duke and duchess, and at that moment the sun broke through the heavy clouds that had held the snow, and threw golden gleams upon the royal pair.

Nor were demonstrations of hospitable welcome and good-will withheld from the father of the bride when, in the later spring-tide, in May, he came with the Grand-duke Alexis on

a visit to her Majesty and to his daughter. On that occasion the public feeling towards the Czar was perhaps less of doubt or distrust than of sympathetic curiosity, for it was known that the path of the Czar Alexander II. was in his own country and his own capital a path of peril. In his melancholy and reserved, if not impassive, manner and expression, men read the deep anxiety of him whose life is dogged by the political criminal, and threatened by the deadly fanatic who has taught himself that murder is no longer a vice when the victim is both emperor and autocrat. His visit was made the occasion of some state receptions, and the splendid hospitality of Windsor and Buckingham Palace was in itself worthy of the imperial guest; but it was at the same time understood that he had come to visit a dear and only daughter in her new home, and the desire of the people here was to give him an assurance that the bride of the second son of our queen would find a place in their hearts, and be cared for with British love and loyalty.

After the state banquet and the pleasant excursions at Windsor there was a visit to London, the cordial demonstrations by the people as he was escorted to Buckingham Palace, the receptions of foreign ambassadors and great dignitaries; but these were followed by more domestic visits to the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House, to the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, and to the widowed Empress Eugenie at Chislehurst. There were some of the sights of London, at all events the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, to be seen; and then came a grand concert and fête at the Crystal Palace, where a vast and splendid reception was given to him and the daughter to whom the nation had pledged their regard. When the royal and imperial party—the Emperor, his daughter the Duchess of Edinburgh, the Princess of Wales, the Grand-

duke Alexis, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught—appeared entering the great palace of glass, twenty-eight thousand persons stood up, the great fountain in the transept flung aloft its silver spray, the baton of the conductor of the splendid orchestra waved in the air, and the united bands burst into the grand music of the Russian national hymn. As the august visitors entered the royal boxes, the three princes sitting together and laughing and chatting in evident enjoyment, every eye was turned with something like compassion to that anxious, almost plaintive, but immovable face, and the plaudits were perhaps the heartier, or at any rate the more intense in consequence. When the Emperor Alexander II. afterwards went to the City amidst renewed popular demonstrations to receive an address at the Guildhall, there was something pathetic in his reply, and the manner of his making it was not without signs of emotion, when he said: "I feel most grateful for your hospitable and cordial reception. On my own part I can assure you that I have a firm reliance on your good feeling towards my beloved daughter, whose domestic happiness I have so much at heart. I trust that, with the blessing of Divine Providence, the affectionate home she finds in your country will strengthen the friendly relations now established between Russia and Great Britain for the mutual advantage of their prosperity and peace."

A great review at Aldershot and a visit to Woolwich occupied the two last days of the visit of the Czar before his departure.

The event which, next to the welcome given to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, excited most public attention in the spring of the year 1874, was the review, held in Windsor Park by the Queen and the royal family, of the troops returned from

Ashantee, where we had for a long time been in an uncertain position with regard to the barbarous king and his swarm of savage warriors, until, in the beginning of December, 1873, it was thought necessary to send a sufficient force to bring Koffee Kalli to submission.

The British settlements on the Gold Coast had been periodically troublesome ever since their foundation in the seventeenth century, and in 1830 we had relinquished them, and after administering a defeat to the savage Ashantees had left the governor of Cape Coast Castle to make a treaty. That governor was Mr. Maclean, who married Letitia Elizabeth Landon, a lady whose unhappy life, as indicated in her letters and later poetry, and her untimely death in that distant land, as declared by her friends, caused much social commotion.

The affairs of the Gold Coast settlements were afterwards for several years administered by a company of merchant traders, till the power was transferred to the colonial office; but hostilities were always taking place, and attempts to punish the Ashantee chiefs were rendered difficult by the fatal effect of the climate on British troops. Some of the settlements were then made over to the Dutch in exchange for other territory, but in 1872 were bought back again. One result of the change was that the Dutch became involved in a war with the Sultan of Acheen and the Malays; another was that the King of Ashantee, who had received an annual subsidy or allowance from the Dutch, hastened to prove his claim to its continuance by taking a number of prisoners as hostages and invading the ceded territory, where he commenced hostilities by attacking the Fantees, who were under our protection, and, afterwards, by commencing assaults on our garrisons.

Though a small force of British troops and marines, with a

few Fantees, inflicted a severe defeat on the king and about 4000 of his fighting men, there was nothing to prevent the latter from retreating to the open country, there to be joined by swarms from the other native tribes who might be persuaded of an easy victory. It was therefore determined to take prompt measures for making an end of Koffee Kalli's pretensions by sending a large force which, in the cooler season of the year, could rapidly march to Coomassie, the capital of Ashantee, and compel the king to submission. Captain Glover, an officer who had experience in dealing with the natives, assembled a large body of Houssas, a warlike Mahometan tribe, on the east of the proposed line of advance. Lieutenant Gordon of the 98th Highlanders struck into the interior and opened the road to Coomassie, and other officers took service for the organization of native troops, while an effective force promptly left England under the command of General Sir Garnet Wolseley. The general, who had attained distinction in the Burmese War, the Crimea, and the defence of Alumbagh, where he was raised to the rank of brevet lieutenant-colonel, had also served through the campaign in China. He was remarkable for prompt and decisive action, and for the active adaptation of all the means under his control, qualities which had been conspicuous in an expedition conducted by him on the Red River while he was serving as quartermaster-general in Canada. He was therefore appointed to the command of the troops sent to the Gold Coast, and with his usual quick but well-considered tactics he preceded the forces, and till their arrival in the beginning of December, 1873, kept the Ashantees in check with the few men who were at his disposal. No sooner had his troops arrived than he pushed on towards Coomassie, knowing that the place must be taken and his men got back to the coast before the unhealthy

season, which had previously been so fatal to European troops. Captain Glover on the east and the other officers on the west were all bound for the same goal, so that three bodies of troops might meet there. The heat was very trying; the marching was over broken ground, where there were pits dug by the natives for extracting the gold. From Cape Coast Castle to Coomassie no provisions could be found except such as were brought from the coast or from neighbouring countries. The food of the natives mostly consisted of large snails. The Fantees were not very efficient as troops, but they and some other natives—both men and women—acted as carriers. There was skirmishing at various points on the route, but the Ashantees were driven before our troops, who, on the 5th of February, 1874, entered Coomassie, where Sir Garnet Wolseley received the submission of the king, who agreed to the appointment of commissioners, and gave up as tokens of his defeat various strangely wrought articles and implements of gold, and a very large and gorgeous umbrella, which appeared to be regarded with peculiar reverence as the token and proof of his sovereignty. The government determined to make the district on the coast a colony of the crown, and the neighbouring districts a protectorate, and to put an end to the internal wars by abolishing slavery and the slave-trade, for which these wars were undertaken by the savage chiefs.

Amidst the engagements by which her Majesty was occupied in the early part of the year 1874, there was sorrow for the death of M. Sylvain de Van de Weyer, the friend of Prince Albert and of herself, who had been the trusted representative and adviser of King Leopold, and had acquired a world-wide reputation for his literary accomplishments, and for the vast and superb library which he accumulated, 30,000 volumes belonging

to him having been in the repository called the Pantechnicon when that building was burned down, and his town and country houses each containing great collections. His death was a public loss, though he lived in much retirement. "He had been for very many years one of the Queen's truest and most valued friends, and his death is felt by her Majesty as an irreparable loss," were the words of the Court Circular.

In the autumn of the year her Majesty was at Balmoral, where the "home-coming" of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh was celebrated in simple, homely, hearty fashion, and on the 15th of October a prince was born, who was named Alfred after his father.

Both in politics and in our foreign relations there was tranquillity, and though in Burmah there were conditions that threatened future trouble, and in India not only the Russian advances but some symptoms of disturbances in Afghanistan gave some anxiety, there was no immediate cause for apprehension.

It was deemed desirable, however, that the Prince of Wales should make a journey of state through our Indian Empire; for it was believed that his presence there would be hailed with loyal manifestations by the people, and that the native princes and the population would alike be impressed by the personal visit of the son of the sovereign to whom they held allegiance.

In the early part of the year 1875 preparations were made for this journey, which was regarded as one of serious importance, to take place in the autumn.

The Queen, with the Prince and Princess Christian and the Princess Beatrice, was at Balmoral, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, were at Abergeldie, when the Prince set out on his journey. On the 17th of September all

dined together at Balmoral, and on the following day the Queen, with the Princess Helena, went to Abergeldie to say the later farewells, and, with the ladies and gentlemen in waiting and all the servants, to watch the departure of the Prince and the Princess, who with the children accompanied him to London.

The Queen had promised to drive over to Abergeldie to see them off, and records that when she reached the house everything was in "considerable confusion. Bertie was out in the garden, where we waited a little while; and then I went up and found poor Alix. (the Princess of Wales) putting up her things in her bed-room--the little girls there--the maids not yet off." There is a homely touch of description here that will be recognized by a good many people who have experienced preparations for a journey—and that journey was a long and important one—not altogether free from danger enough to make the mother's heart feel sad at parting—and as her Majesty wrote in her journal, "not knowing what might not happen, or if he would ever return. May God bless him!"

After the departure of the Prince of Wales the Queen, with the Princess Beatrice, went on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne (Princess Louise), to Inverary Castle, where her Majesty was received by the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, who stood with their six daughters at the door. Halberdiers with brown coats turned back with red, kilts of the Campbell tartan, and with the Campbell badge of black-cocks' tail-feathers and bog-myrtle in their bonnets, had been posted along the approach with the pipers of the volunteers. The volunteers in kilts and red jackets, and the artillery volunteers (of whom Lord Lorne was colonel) in blue and silver, were drawn up, and a good many spectators were present; but the occasion was not altogether one of state, it was a family

visit. "The duke and duchess took us upstairs at once to our rooms, part of which were Louise's," the Queen writes; "very comfortable, not large, but cheerful, and having a beautiful view of Loch Fyne. It was one when we arrived, and we lunched at two, only Louise, Beatrice, and Lorne, in a nice room (in fact, the duchess's drawing-room) with tapestry at the foot of the stairs. Brown (who has attended me at all the meals since we came here) waited, helped by two or three of the duke's people. After lunch we went into the large drawing-room, next door to where we had lunched in 1847, when Lorne was only two years old. And now I return, alas! without my beloved husband, to find Lorne my son-in-law!"

The Queen made a pleasant stay at the castle, and went with her daughters on some very delightful excursions in spite of some rather rough weather. On the evening of the 24th of September there was a tenants' ball in a temporary pavilion, a long handsome room which had been built at some distance from the castle at the time of the marriage of Princess Louise. It was decorated with flags, and provided with a raised platform at the upper end for the royal party and the duke's family. Seven or eight hundred people were present, tenants with their wives and families, and many people from the town. The Queen noted that there was a great difference between this ball and the Highland dances to which she had been accustomed, for there were other dances beside reels, and the band, though it had come from Glasgow, could not play reels, but had to leave them to the pipers, who were, no doubt, competent enough, and probably played their best when the Princesses Louise and Beatrice danced a reel with Brown and one of the duke's foresters.

There were other visitors at the castle, including Lord and

Lady Dufferin, who were about to proceed to Canada, and took leave of her Majesty on the 28th. On the following day, September 29th, the Queen writes in her journal: "Vicky's and Fritz's engagement day, already twenty years ago! God bless them!" On that day her Majesty took leave of the whole family, and parted from her daughter ("my darling Louise") with a heavy heart. Her Majesty had occupied some of the fine mornings in sketching and painting, in which the Princess was an able and cheerful ally, and the Queen may well have felt sad at returning, though the journey was through very beautiful scenery to Balloch, and arches of flowers, flags, and various loyal demonstrations marked the route. From Balloch the journey was by railway, and at Stirling there was a great concourse of people, and the station was prettily decorated. Ballater was reached at a little before ten at night, and Balmoral at twenty-five minutes before eleven.

On the 21st of October her Majesty, whose ready sympathy was with the people who were in her service, records her presence at a Highland funeral, the funeral of a venerable old man, the father of her faithful attendant, John Brown. The old farmhouse where the aged parents of Brown lived was at Micras, opposite Abergeldie, and the Queen, with Princess Beatrice, went on the day of the funeral to see the poor blind widow, and remained to the brief service held within the house, but did not attend at the kirkyard, though her Majesty stopped in her carriage to see the coffin carried in.

On the 17th of August, 1876, the anniversary of the birthday of her beloved mother, the Queen was at Edinburgh, where the ceremony of unveiling the statue of the Prince Consort was to be performed. Her Majesty stayed at Holyrood with Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice. Prince Arthur (Duke

of Connaught), who was then major in the 7th Hussars and with his regiment at the Piershill Barracks, near Edinburgh, appeared at breakfast at the palace in uniform, and left before luncheon, as he had to command the royal escort formed by his own regiment.

Though the morning was misty and there was some rain the Queen, with invincible liking for fresh air, went out and sat under an umbrella, and with screens to protect her from the drizzle. There, at the side of the Abbey facing Arthur's Seat, her Majesty worked for an hour or two writing and signing papers. Crowds of people were flocking into the streets, troops marching, bands playing, in preparation for the ceremony that was to take place in the afternoon.

At half-past three her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, and preceded by her suite, drove to Charlotte Square. The streets and open spaces were handsomely decorated and crowded with people. Prince Arthur, in command of the escort, rode near the Queen's carriage. The royal party was received by the Duke of Buccleuch, and occupied a well-arranged dais, her Majesty standing a little in advance between her two children; and behind them were Mr. Cross, who was then home secretary, with the ladies and gentlemen of the suite. The committee with the Duke of Buccleuch stood below, and a large inclosure was railed off for distinguished spectators of the ceremony, which began with a brief prayer by one of the Deans of the Chapel Royal, followed by Prince Albert's Chorale, sung by a choir, accompanied by the band of the 79th Regiment, led by Dr. Oakeley, professor of music in the University of Edinburgh. After an appropriate address read by the Duke of Buccleuch the statue was unveiled; the Coburg March was played by the band, and another chorale, composed by Professor

Oakeley, was performed. Mr. Steele, the sculptor, was presented, and on the return to Holyrood was knighted by the Queen, the same honour being conferred on Professor Oakeley. At night there was a large dinner-party in the old dining-room in the palace, where her Majesty had not dined since she was there with Prince Albert in 1861, when he had laid the stone of the new post-office, only six weeks before his death. The day had been very full of tender memories, but the Queen could now think of the great sorrow with calm resignation, and the occasion was far from being an unhappy one, though its associations were necessarily such as to awaken recollections of the circumstances that had marked former visits to Holyrood. Her Majesty remained for some time in the drawing-room after dinner, and then went upstairs, and with the Princess Beatrice looked out from the window at the rockets and fireworks; but there was a great noise in the streets and from the trains.

The autumn visit to Scotland and the peace and rest to be found in making pleasant excursions in the Highlands, or in the quiet home at Balmoral, had become necessary to the Queen as a relief from the more exacting claims of royal life at Windsor or Buckingham Palace, or even at Osborne, referring to which the Princess Alice pathetically remarked in one of her letters: "I am sure dear Osborne is charming as ever, but I can't think of that large house, so empty, no children any more; it must seem so forsaken in our old wing."

Those letters from the dear daughter, with whom devotion to duty, to beneficence, and to family ties was an abiding principle, were full of touching references, and glowed with the mild radiance of a soul in which suffering itself became glorified by faith and love. She was still sorrowing for the loss of the bright little son whose untimely death had plunged the household into

mourning. Her own health had suffered from grief and from the unremitting exertions necessary to regulate her household, and cheerfully to do such work as mothers of families with straitened means have to perform, while to these had been added the efforts to organize and establish institutions for the relief of the sick and distressed. Throughout her correspondence with her mother shines a tender light of sympathy and affection for every member of the royal family, and for the Queen herself a deep filial love which finds expression in a peculiar reverence and admiration that are infinitely affecting.

Before her bereavement the princess had been much prostrated with weakness and had visited Italy. After three days' stay at Florence, to which she journeyed by way of Munich and the Brenner Pass, she went to Rome. The churches, ruined temples, and grand picture-galleries were, to her, great delights. Making an excursion to Sorrento by way of Naples, where she met the Empress Marie of Russia, then in a very delicate state of health, the princess went again to Florence through the valley of the Arno, and after visiting some of the most important galleries and churches, returned home to Darmstadt on the 2d of May. On the morning of the 29th the accident happened which resulted in the death of her darling little son. The letters between the Queen and her daughter were full of sympathy, of comfort, of good counsel. One written by the princess from Seeheim on the 2d of August, 1873, must suffice here to illustrate alike the pensive sorrow, the gratitude, and the serenity of that sweet nature.

"Many thanks for your dear letter! I am feeling so low and weak to-day, that kind words are doubly soothing. You feel so with me, when you understand how long and deep my grief must be. And does not one grow to love one's grief, as having become

part of the being one loved—as if through *this* we could still pay a tribute of love to them, to make up for the terrible loss, and missing of not being able to do anything for the beloved one any more. I am so much with my children, and am so accustomed to care for them and their wants daily, that I miss not having Frittie, the object of our greatest care, far more than words can describe, and in the quiet of our everyday life, where we have only the children around us, it is doubly and trebly felt, and is a sorrow that has entered into the very heart of our existence.

“May the hour of trial and grief bring its blessing with it, and not have come in vain! The day passes so quickly, when one can do good and make others happy, and one leaves always so much undone. I feel more than ever, one should put nothing off; and children grow up so quickly and leave one, and I would long that mine should take nothing but the recollection of love and happiness from their home with them into the world’s fight, knowing that they have there *always* a safe harbour, and open arms to comfort and encourage them when they are in trouble. I do hope that this may become the case, though the lesson for parents is so difficult, being continually *giving*, without always finding the return.”

The regular correspondence with the Queen was delightful to her, for (however imperfectly) it represented the close and loving confidence which belonged to personal intercourse. The princess, moreover, deeply appreciated the affection with which she was regarded by her friends and relatives, and was grateful for their endeavours to console her. The Grand-duchess Marie of Russia, who was about to be engaged to Prince Alfred, was at Seeheim in July, and the loving hearts of these two young women, who were so soon to be related, were already much in unison. One was awaiting the arrival of her brother (the Duke

of Edinburgh¹, soon to be the affianced lover of the other. The Emperor and Empress of Russia were also of the party. In August the Princess Alice was able after many difficulties to go away for much-needed rest and change to the Mainau, and thence to see the dear friend and former playmate who sincerely admired and loved her, Louise, Grand-duchess of Baden, daughter of the Emperor and Empress of Germany.

The princess and her husband were soon looking forward with pleasure to accepting the invitation to spend a few days at Windsor before Christmas, for the young mother's heart was still sore with the pain of her bereavement, and needed that other mother's heart to speak to it. "You ask if I can play yet?" says a letter in answer to one from the Queen. "I feel as if I could not, and I have not yet done so. In my own house it seems to me as if I never could play again on that piano, where little hands were nearly always thrust when I wanted to play. Away from home—in England—much sooner. I had played so often lately that splendid, touching funeral march of Chopin's, and I remember it is the last thing I played, and then the boys were running in the room."

But there was love and kindly consolation too. "Mary Teck¹ came to see me and remained two nights, so warm-hearted and sympathizing. I like to talk of him to those who love children, and can understand how great the gap, how intense the pain, the ending of a little bright existence causes."

In December the visit to Windsor was paid, and after staying for a day or two at Buckingham Palace the prince and princess left England again on the 22d.

¹ The Princess Mary of Cambridge, her Majesty's cousin, married to Francis, Duke of Teck, on the 12th of June, 1866. At the time this letter was written the children of her royal highness the Princess Mary were: Princess Victoria Mary, born 26th May, 1867; Prince Adolphus, born 13th August, 1868; and Prince Francis, born 9th January, 1870.

On the 24th of May, 1874, another daughter had been born to the princess, and though the sorrow for the loss of her little son was not healed, she had the satisfaction of seeing many of her relations during that springtide. The Emperor of Russia and the Duke of Edinburgh were present at the christening, which took place at Jagenheim near Darmstadt. The Duchess of Edinburgh was there also as one of the godmothers, her Majesty being the other, represented by the Princess Charles of Hesse. For the Duchess of Edinburgh, Princess Alice had a sincere admiration and affection. In her sweet simple way the princess wrote to the Queen: "The christening went off very well. Baby looked really pretty for so young an individual. It was in a large room. Marie, quite in pink, held her godchild, and my mother-in-law, with her best love, begs me to tell you it has pleased her so much that you had asked her to represent you. My three older girls looked very nice, I thought, in lavender silk (your Christmas present). I had the same colour, and 'Sunny' in pink was immensely admired. She is still improving in looks since you saw her." "Sunny" was the little Princess Alix Victoria, then two years old.

The health of the princess was still much depressed, and in the summer the family went to Blankenberghe for the sea-bathing. "We can get nothing at Scheveningen," she wrote, "except at exorbitant prices, so we go to that dreadful Blankenberghe—without tree or bush, nothing but a beach and sand-banks." But the quiet and rest of Blankenberghe, where there was "not a soul one knows," were beneficial, and living in small but clean rooms with good cooking was no hardship to the princess, who soon found that the sea-bathing and the strong pure air brought increased health and strength to her and to her children.

The beneficent institutions which Princess Alice had established, and in the organization and work of which she bore a personal part, had extended. Her hospital was nearly complete as a training-school and home for nurses. The building with its appointments had belonged to the English National Society for Aid to Sick and Wounded. It was a cramped little house in the Mauerstrasse in Darmstadt, and had been occupied by the society during the war in 1870, but was afterwards made over to the "Alice Ladies' Union" for the employment of women. It was afterwards enlarged, rearranged, and established on a separate basis under the direction of a trained and experienced lady superintendent. The "Alice Society for the Education and Employment of Women of all Classes" was also enlarged. The princess was president, and herself chose the ladies and gentlemen who formed the committee. In these and other works of personal charity she was engaged whenever time could be spared from her domestic duties and the occasional social observances that belonged to her rank and station.

The regular affectionate correspondence with the Queen continued to be a source of deep consolation, enabling her to express her gentle true affection for every member of the family, her satisfaction at the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh, and her congratulations on the birthday of Prince Arthur (the Duke of Connaught). "He is so much respected, which for one so young is doubly praiseworthy. From St. Petersburg, as from Vienna, we heard the same account of the steady line he holds to, in spite of all chaffing, &c., from others; which shows character."

Again, in December, on hearing of the death of Colonel Grey, the only son of Sir George Grey, and equerry to the Prince of Wales, she wrote. . . . "Bertie and Alix are

sure to have felt it deeply. Dear Bertie's true and constant heart suffers on such occasions, for he can be constant in friendship, and all who serve him serve him with warm attachment." Deeply sensitive to every incident of the old family life, it was not surprising that the letters of the princess should be frequently of a mournful cast. She had suffered much, and her temperament was such that she felt keenly and profoundly. She had learnt to regard this life as a short and serious journey to another state of existence, and that sorrows and bereavements were means of keeping in view the life to come, to which those who had gone before were training and inviting us. In this as in nearly all her serious moods of thought the princess had a strong resemblance to her father, for whose memory she had an intense affection, and whose character was to her a constant example. On the 12th of December, on the occasion of receiving the first volume of the *Life of the Prince Consort* by Sir Theodore Martin, she wrote to the Queen, as she always did on or just before the sad anniversary of Prince Albert's death. "Last year I had the comfort of being near you. It did me real good then, and I thank you again for those short and quiet days, where the intercourse with you was so soothing to my aching heart. There is no Umgang (intercourse) I know that gives me more happiness than when I can be with you,—above all, in quiet. The return to the so-called world I have barely made. Life is serious, a journey to another end. The flowers God sends to brighten our path I take with gratitude and enjoy, but much that was dearest, most precious, which this day *commemorates*, is in the grave; part of my heart is there too, though their spirits, adored papa's, live on with me, the holiest and brightest part of life, a star to lead us, were we but equal to following it. The older I grow the more perfect, the more

touching and good, dear papa's image stands before me. Such an *entire* life for duty, so joyously and unpretendingly borne out, remains for all times something inexpressibly fine and grand! With it, how tender, lovable, gay, he was! . . . He *was* and *is* my ideal. I never knew a man fit to place beside him, or so made to be devotedly loved and admired."

In one of the letters of the Princess Alice reference is made to those so-called Ritualistic observances which were causing much uneasiness among members of the Church of England, who regarded them as endeavours to revive ceremonies and doctrines contrary to the beliefs and antagonistic to the professions of the Protestant clergy and congregations. We have already noted the aspect of the "Catholic" movement in the universities and the church at a former period, and the declarations of her Majesty and the Prince Consort respecting it. It is not surprising that the Princess Alice should express her opinion that it remained "a retrograde movement for any Protestant," and was quite incomprehensible to her, was *un-English*, and that she thought there were, among the Ritualists, Catholics who helped to convert.

At all events the movement had, and still has, so important an aspect in reference to the established Protestant church and its relation to the Queen, that it should claim our notice. At the time that the question of rate-aided schools was discussed the objections of Protestant nonconformists, and also of a large number of Protestant churchmen, to the kind of instruction which might be given at church schools had direct reference to the professed doctrines and ceremonies that had been adopted by many of the clergy. It was thought that as neither convocations nor bishops appeared able to prevent the wilful breach of the rules for public worship according to the reformed Church of

England, the government might be called upon to interfere by parliamentary procedure, and to assert its right to interpose in order to maintain some kind of authority in a church "by law established," and professing to claim the moral, if not the pecuniary, support of the state.

Early in 1867 a deputation waited on the Archbishop of Canterbury to present an address setting forth that some of the clergy had revived Romish practices in the Reformed Church.

His grace, replying to the appeal that he would use his influence to discourage and suppress these innovations, said that whatever changes might be fairly considered to be symbolical of erroneous doctrine, and to favour that which was deliberately rejected by the Church of England—whatever he had reason to believe was offensive to the great bulk of a congregation, and calculated to estrange them from the church of their forefathers, he should readily discountenance; but he could not be understood to promise any interference with that legitimate latitude which was permitted in the ordering of the services of the church.

This would appear to be an indefinite answer, but for the fact that the practices specially mentioned by the deputation included habitual confession to a priest, the wearing of Romish vestments, the use of incense and of candles lighted in the day-time, the mixing of water with the sacramental wine, and the offering of the holy sacrament as a propitiatory sacrifice. At all events the declaration of the bishop had little effect; and though a bill for determining the question of clerical vestments, proposed by Lord Shaftesbury in the House of Lords, was thrown out, a royal commission was formed to inquire into the difference of practice that had arisen from varying interpretations put upon the rubrics, orders, and directions for regulating the course and

conduct of public worship, the administration of the sacrament, and the other services contained in the Book of Common Prayer, according to the use of the United Church of England and Ireland, and more especially with reference to the ornaments used in the churches and chapels of the said united church, and the vestments worn by the ministers thereof at the time of their ministrations.

Before the result of the inquiries were brought to a practical issue the Irish Church had been disestablished and virtually disendowed. It was not till the 20th of April, 1874, that a measure entitled the Public Worship Regulation Bill was introduced into the House of Lords. It provided that each bishop should have a power of direction, assisted by the advice of a board of clerical and lay assessors, with regard to the manner of worship which, from the canons and the Book of Common Prayer, would seem to have been intended in the constitution of the church. Any parishioner, the rural dean, or the archdeacon, who believed that the practices of an incumbent amounted to a grievance could appeal to the bishop, who, if he thought the matter was serious enough for inquiry, would summon the assessors, and if they condemned the act or acts complained of, the bishop would issue his "monition." But the incumbent could appeal to the archbishop and *his* board of assessors, whose decision was to be final. It had been clearly shown, however, that many of the ritualistic clergy would be little likely to regard the episcopal monition, and it was so evident that the commission of inquiry had had no effect on their strange observances that the necessity of instituting a direct legal authority was sharply urged. Lord Shaftesbury, who had opposed conferring the discretionary power on the bishops, proposed as an amendment that an ecclesiastical judge should be appointed by

the archbishops with the approval of the crown, to preside in the courts of Canterbury and York, and that before this judge each case of complaint, if not dismissed by the bishop of the diocese as trivial, should go for trial, but that an appeal should lie from his decision to the privy-council.

The amendment was carried in the House of Commons after an energetic and eloquent opposition by Mr. Gladstone, who contended that no act of parliament should proscribe varieties of opinion and usage in various congregations of the church, and that the house should not place in the hands of any bishop, on the motion of one or of three persons, greatly increased facilities towards procuring an absolute ruling of many points hitherto left open and reasonably allowing of diversity. Mr. Gladstone, however, advocated that the house should assist any measure providing more effectual security against neglect or departure from the law, which might give evidence of a design to alter, without the consent of the nation, the spirit or substance of the established religion.

Sir William Harcourt, in reply, repudiated what he called the doctrine of optional conformity, and declared that it was necessary to show that the National Church of England was in reality, what it ought to be, the church of a Protestant nation. Mr. Disraeli afterwards roundly declared that the measure was a bill "to put down ritualism." After some modifications the bill passed through committee, and was read a third time in the House of Lords on the 3d of August, and Lord Penzance was appointed to the new ecclesiastical judgeship.

The effect of the measure has been that the more determined ritualistic priests, who ignored the authority of the bishop to whom they were supposed to be in obedience, have disdainfully repudiated the interference of the law, by which the church was

said to be established. They claim to be above temporal interference; in many churches the practices have more and more resembled those of the Roman communion; processions, crucifixes, candles, incense, varied vestments, the "celebration of the mass," the elevation of the elements, and other ceremonies, have been persisted in; several of the offending priests, refusing to recognize either the ecclesiastical or the judicial authority or the remonstrances of the congregation, have submitted to be imprisoned for short terms rather than conform to the prescribed order of worship. In some churches riotous scenes were for some time witnessed every Sunday; in others, the original congregation, unable to endure the manner of conducting the services, dwindled away and left the church to those who either approved, or were indifferent to, the ceremonies.

It is, of course, to be understood that the questions of ritualistic observance or doctrine are not to be discussed here; but the events referred to, in their relation to the Queen and the church, are too important to be left out of these pages. It is not surprising that thoughtful people should have seen in the position assumed by the ritualistic clergy, who refused to submit to authority, the beginning of the disestablishment of the church, as the congregations who supported them were practically non-conformist, and even "independent."

Another bill passed in the same session was the Church Patronage of Scotland Bill, abolishing the remaining lay patronage in the Established Kirk, and vesting it in the members of the congregations, the proposed qualification being that which existed in other Presbyterian bodies in Scotland, the compensation to patrons not to exceed one year's stipend when any compensation was demanded.

In the beginning of the year 1875 the Prince and Princess

of Hesse, with their children, were again in England for two months on a visit to the Queen and to the Prince of Wales, and in May her Majesty went for a spring visit to Balmoral with the two eldest children, Victoria and Elizabeth.

The early part of this year was marked by much anxiety on account of the serious illness of Prince Leopold (Duke of Albany), who was then twenty-two years of age. He had repeatedly suffered from a state of health so precarious that his life had two or three times been almost despaired of, and in 1868 it was thought that he would not recover. The prince was at Oxford, and was beginning to fulfil the early promise of intellectual distinction which had been observed in him. Precluded from the enjoyment of much active bodily exertion, he had devoted himself to studies, in which he attained a high degree of knowledge, especially in literature and art. As was shown at a later date, he could speak with much grace and impressiveness on these and other topics, and could address a considerable audience with remarkable tact and ability. He became associated with the memory of his father in the minds of those who listened to his earnest and pleasant advocacy of the claims of charity and beneficence.

It was during the Christmas vacation of 1874 that another serious attack of illness showed itself in the shape of typhoid fever, and it was asserted that the malady had been contracted before leaving Oxford. For several weeks the whole royal family were much distressed, and her Majesty was unable to open parliament in person; but eventually the prince recovered, and by the spring was able to renew some of his quiet occupations.

Again there were losses by death of eminent men who had borne a part in the world's history and were honoured by the

Queen. Lord St. Leonards, Sir Charles Lyell, the Rev. Canon Kingsley, and (a more directly personal bereavement) Sir Arthur Helps, clerk to the council, and her Majesty's literary adviser and assistant in her first book of *Leaves from the Journal*, had departed from their places on earth.

Alas! the roll-call of names to which no answer came had been increasing. Her Majesty had reached that point in life's journey where the parting of the ways frequently reminds the traveller that there is no abiding, and the heart longs almost to breaking "for the touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still;" and it may surely be conceived that the sovereign would feel more rather than less of this heart-need than many of her subjects, whose comparatively quiet lives apart both from the pageant and the responsibility of state can dwell more placidly on the equality of affection. But the Queen never failed to separate the substantial sweetness of the domestic and friendly life from the pomp and circumstance which are the accidents of royalty, and this has often enabled her to regard with calm eyes and balanced judgment the degree in which the measures of her government would essentially affect the well-being of her people.

Among the advantages claimed to have been secured in 1875 were the cession to Great Britain of the island of Fiji, which by the will of the inhabitants became a British possession, and the purchase of his shares in the Suez Canal from the bankrupt Khedive of Egypt, Ismail Pasha. These were secured for £4,000,000, a transaction which Mr. Disraeli quietly effected on behalf of the state, in the belief that the possession of the shares would help to maintain our influence in Egypt by giving us some authority in the administration of the canal.

A change had taken place in the Indian government under

Mr. Disraeli's administration, and Lord Northbrook having retired had been succeeded by Lord Lytton, son of the famous Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, who had himself been elevated to the peerage as Lord Lytton.

The incidents of the visit of the Prince of Wales to India were followed with much popular interest, and the intelligence that he was on his way thither was received by the natives of many of the districts with an enthusiasm which was more intensely displayed on his arrival. After a passing visit to his brother-in-law at Athens, and to the Khedive of Egypt, whose son he invested with the grand cross of the order of the Star of India, his royal highness landed at Bombay early in November, where he received an apparently hearty, and a certainly magnificent, welcome from the native chiefs and princes.

The prevalence of cholera in some districts restricted him from making as complete a tour as had been intended, but his journey included the chief provinces. He was everywhere received with splendid demonstrations, and interchanged regal courtesies with the native rajahs and princes, many of whom brought superb presents for him and for the Queen whose sovereignty they acknowledged. His progress through her Majesty's Indian dominions was a succession of brilliant demonstrations; cities, palaces, and temples were illuminated, hunting and shooting parties were appointed, places of the greatest interest were made specially attractive because of the arrangements for the reception of the heir-apparent to the British Empire. The wonders of India, and all the aspects of its sumptuous Oriental life, were open to him. He joined in the excitement of an elephant hunt in Ceylon, he viewed with profound admiration the mysterious caves of Elephanta, the various phases of Indian art, handi-crafts, public life, social observance, and magnificent hospitality

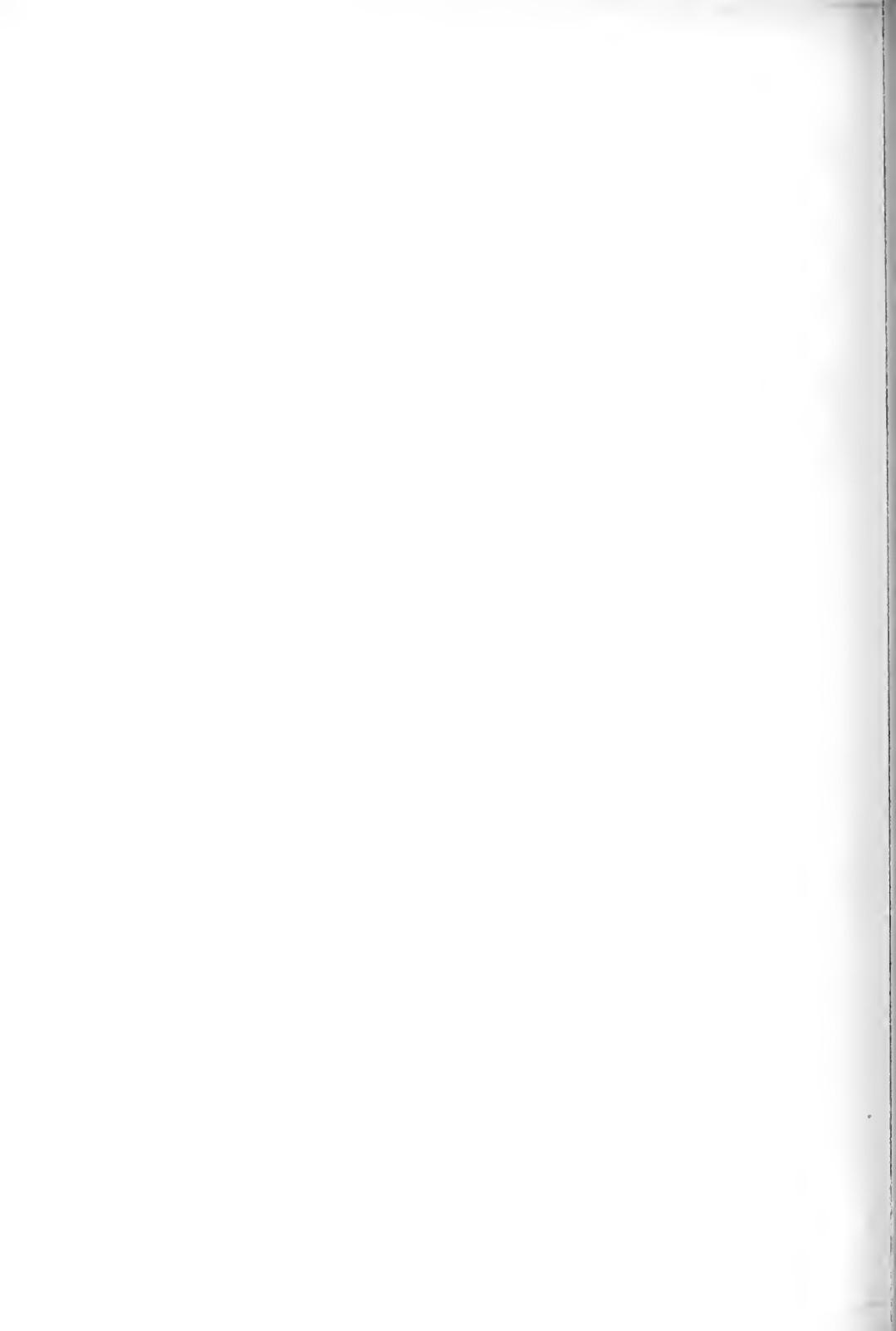
were exhibited to him in the various stages of his journey, in Bombay, Baroda, Calcutta, Colombo, and Madras. There could be no doubt that his frank courtesy and simple engaging manner created a very favourable impression, not only on the princes and chieftains who attended the sumptuous entertainments and presentations, but on the populations—the subjects of the Queen in the various provinces—who received him with genuine signs of loyal regard.

The presence of the Prince of Wales had increased the loyalty of many of the native chiefs who were attached to British rule, and before his departure his royal highness held a ceremonial state reception of a number of the most important of them, to whom he gave presents suitable to their rank. The visit of the Prince was followed by a reform of the operation of the laws between Europeans and natives, with some severe reprehensions of the overbearing assumptions of certain British representatives.

The prime minister greatly desired that the Queen should take the additional title of Empress of India, and after some discussion, during which the wording of the title in Hindustani was made the subject of a good many criticisms, parliament agreed to commend it to her Majesty, who, on the 1st of May, 1876, was proclaimed "Empress of India." The proclamation of the new title was made on the 1st of January, 1887, at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay; and also at Delhi, where the Viceroy, Lord Lytton, received a large assembly of native princes, with whom he held a magnificent court, at which these chieftains attended arrayed in superb costumes and glittering with jewels.

Her Majesty had opened parliament in person early in February, and on the 25th of that month attended a state morning concert at the Albert Hall, accompanied by the Princess









of Wales, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, and received by the Duke of Edinburgh. Though her Majesty had long before been able to resume the pleasure that she always felt in music and in the pleasant recreations of domestic life, this was the first occasion of her appearance at any place of public amusement since her great bereavement. Yet amidst this enjoyment and the pleasure of sharing it with some of her children, there may still have been a reserve of sorrow in the thought that another dear friend was rapidly passing to the unseen world; no less a friend than the Lady Augusta Stanley (formerly Lady Augusta Bruce), whose gentle ministrations and noble, beautiful character had endeared her to every member of the royal house. After many weeks of suffering she died on the 1st of March. Her Majesty, who had visited her during her long illness, witnessed the last solemn rites with which the body of this devoted friend was consigned to the grave, and afterwards spoke words of consolation to the desolate husband, who had himself so often consoled others.

Though her Majesty had taken little or no part in public amusements, of which the fatigue and excitement might have incapacitated her from discharging essential duties, she continued to manifest a personal interest in charitable efforts intended to ameliorate distress or improve the condition of the poor. One of the noblest institutions in the metropolis—the London Hospital in Whitechapel—had long been conferring immeasurable benefits on the sick poor of the east end of London, and though it was unendowed and dependent on voluntary contributions, the demands upon its resources had vastly increased. A public subscription was opened, and was liberally responded to, and her Majesty willingly consented to open a new wing of the building, for which the Grocers' Company had contributed the munificent sum of £20,000.

On the 7th of March, 1876, the Queen, with the Princess Beatrice, went in semi-state through the city for the purpose of inaugurating this addition to the institution, various wards of which were visited, her Majesty and the princess manifesting genuine interest in the great work that was being performed there by the medical and nursing staff.

The reception given to the royal party by the crowds in the streets was the more enthusiastic because of the mission on which the Queen was journeying eastward, and in the great thoroughfare of Aldgate and Whitechapel these demonstrations betokened the affection with which she was regarded. It was afterwards said that, with her usual tender consideration for children, her Majesty took very special interest in the wards for the juvenile patients, and that while passing through them, and saying a few words of kindness here and there, a little girl, who from the position of her bed could not get a glimpse of her Sovereign Lady amidst the suite and attendants, cried out to her nurse: "Please, do let me see the Queen; I shall be quite better if I see the Queen." The Rev. Mr. Rowsell, one of her Majesty's chaplains—formerly the liberal-minded incumbent of a city church—was present, and told her Majesty of the plaintive request. The Queen immediately turned and asked to be conducted to the bedside of the child, whose little hand she took in her own, while speaking words of tender sympathy and encouragement, which it was said really had the effect that the little sufferer had predicted. This touch of gracious nature was as highly appreciated as the kindly words spoken by her Majesty at the ceremony of opening the new additional building: "Situated as the London Hospital is, in the midst of the poorest classes of the metropolis, the addition of a wing was of very great importance to the sick and suffering of its

neighbourhood; and when I remember that instead of the eight hundred beds which this hospital will now contain, adequate provision did not exist for four hundred patients previous to the opening of the ‘Alexandra’ wing by the Prince and Princess of Wales less than twelve years since, I sincerely congratulate his royal highness the president (the Duke of Cambridge), the governors, and the staff of so eminently successful an institution on the completion of this further proof of their zeal and efficiency. It has given me great pleasure to visit the East End of London, and I shall always remember with much satisfaction that I was enabled to open the Grocers’ Company’s wing of the London Hospital.”

Her Majesty had no reason to doubt the heartiness and loyalty of her reception in those poor neighbourhoods, and she was sincerely pleased with the genuine ring of it. She had reason indeed for expecting it, for this was not her first acquaintance with eastern London, though she had not been so far in that direction since her inauguration of Victoria Park in 1868, when she had doubtless thought of the keen interest which the Prince Consort would have felt in the completion of such a glorious resort for the inhabitants of that vast and crowded district.

A few days after her appearance at the “East End” her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and travelling as Countess of Kent, crossed in the royal yacht to Cherbourg on the way to Coburg. A visit was made to Baden-Baden and to the grave of her beloved sister the Princess Hohenlohe. The Queen spent about a month abroad, during which time the bill giving her Majesty the title of Empress of India was passed by parliament, though, as we have seen, the proclamation was not made in the Indian Empire until the 1st of January in the following year. On her return journey from Coburg her

Majesty took a short rest at Paris, where she had an interview with Marshal MacMahon, the president of the French Republic.

Immediately after her Majesty's return she was present at a review of troops at Aldershot, where the "march past" was through a tremendous storm of hail; a week afterwards, on the 13th of May, the Queen opened a loan collection of scientific instruments at South Kensington.

The return of the Prince of Wales from India on the 11th of May was the cause of much public congratulation. He had passed his Christmas day in Calcutta, attending divine service in the morning, and in the evening being present at a grand state dinner given by the Viceroy. On New Years' Day he had unveiled a statue of Lord Mayo. At Lucknow he had laid the foundation of a memorial of the native defence of the Residency during the mutiny of 1857, the survivors of the faithful natives passing in review before him. At Delhi there had been a grand review, at Wuzeerabad he had opened the "Alexandra" bridge. At Madras he had received a remarkable present, a "four-in-hand" of antelopes, and, as we have noted, he had hunted the elephant; and in the tiger hunt, which was provided by the Maharajah of Jeypore as part of the entertainment in his honour, he had shot a tiger. His royal highness set sail for home on the 13th of March, and at Gibraltar was met by his brother the Duke of Connaught. On his thirty-fourth birthday the Prince had been at Bombay, and the occasion was signalized in all parts of our Indian possessions as well as in England, and especially at the home at Sandringham. The Princess had beforehand prepared a little surprise for his royal highness, who, when he entered his room in Bombay on the morning of his birthday, saw her portrait, as it were, smiling on him. The picture had been intrusted to some one who had

faithfully kept the pleasant secret, and contrived to carry out the wishes of the Princess at the right moment. On the 11th of May, as the *Scrapis* appeared off Portsmouth with the Prince and his suite on board, the Princess and her children were there on board the *Enchantress* to give him the first loving welcome home, and when he afterwards appeared leading the Princess down the gangway of the *Scrapis* to the jetty, the greetings of the assembled multitude were tremendous, and were followed by the performance of a musical welcome composed, for the occasion, by Sir Julius Benedict. On reaching London the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne with a number of distinguished personages were there to greet the traveller and to congratulate him on his return; and when he appeared the same evening at the opera with the Princess beside him and his two sons holding his hands, the enthusiasm of the audience was beyond expression. The collection of trophies and presents which his royal highness brought home have been repeatedly exhibited, and there can be no doubt that his visit to India was popular not only there but in this country. His return was celebrated by several splendid entertainments, among which a grand ball to which he was invited by the lord-mayor and corporation in the Guildhall of London was not the least magnificent. The rejoicings in celebration of her Majesty's birthday also took renewed scope and emphasis from the popular feeling which recognized her happiness in the safe return of her son, and his reunion with the royal family.

A visit of the Empress of Germany was among the events of the season, after the return of the Queen to England. The ex-royal family of Hanover, whose kingdom had been absorbed in the settlement of the North German Empire, also visited her Majesty.

The unveiling of the statue of the Prince Consort at Edinburgh has been referred to, and it may be noted that the Albert Memorial at Kensington had been completed in the previous spring by the addition of the statue of the Prince, which was unveiled on the 9th of March, but without any special ceremony. It may be easily understood that it would have been impossible for her Majesty to undergo such a trial as that which would have been demanded by her taking part in any great public ceremonial on the occasion. The completion of the memorial, however, was most gratifying.

At Balmoral the Queen had the happiness of consoling and sympathizing with her dear daughter the Princess Alice, who continued in so weak and exhausted a condition that she was strongly advised to visit England and Scotland during the absence of her husband Prince Louis, who was detained at the great military manoeuvres in Germany. He came to England in the autumn to fetch the princess, and on the way home they stayed for a short time at Brussels, and also visited Coblenz to pay their respects to the Empress of Germany, who had kindly been to see their children at Darmstadt.

During the visit of the princess to Balmoral she had the happiness of being with members of the dear family circle, and amidst many of the old servants and retainers. Prince Arthur and Princess Beatrice were there; and the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, and Prince John of Glücksburg, the uncle of the Princess of Wales, were at Abergeldie.

On the 26th of September the picturesque and interesting ceremony of the presentation, by her Majesty, of new colours to "the Royal Scots" Regiment was the occasion of a meeting of the royal household at Balmoral and Abergeldie, and of between

two and three thousand people of the country side in a fine open space near Ballater, which her Majesty describes as “a beautiful position, with the noble rocky high hill of Craig-an-Darrach, at the foot of which lie the Pass of Ballater and the park of Monaltrie House, with the hills opposite.” Unfortunately it was a rainy day, but the weather cleared as the Queen, with the Princesses Alice and Beatrice and Prince Arthur, drove to Ballater in a closed landau, which was opened just outside the village.

Captain Charles Phipps, assistant adjutant quarter-master general, preceded them to the scene of the ceremony, where the Princess of Wales was in a carriage, and the Prince of Wales and his sons, wearing the Highland dress, were on foot along with Prince John of Glücksburg, and all went and stood near the Queen, with Prince Arthur, who also wore the kilt. Her Majesty describing the ceremony says: “Then followed, after the royal salute, the trooping of the colours, with all its peculiar and interesting customs, marching and countermarching, the band playing the fine old marches of the “Garb of old Gaul” and “Dumbarton Drums,” also the march from the “*Fille du Régiment*,” which was evidently played as a compliment to me, whom they considered as ‘born in the regiment,’ my father having commanded it at the time I was born. Then came the piling of the drums, and the prayer by Mr. Middleton, minister of Ballater, after which the new colours were given to me. I handed them to the two sub-lieutenants, who were kneeling; and then I said the following words:—

“In intrusting these colours to your charge, it gives me much pleasure to remind you that I have been associated with your regiment from my earliest infancy, as my dear father was your colonel. He was proud of his profession, and I was always told to consider myself a soldier’s child. I rejoice in having a

son who has devoted his life to the army, and who, I am confident, will ever prove worthy of the name of a British soldier. I now present these colours to you, convinced that you will always uphold the glory and reputation of my First Regiment of Foot—the Royal Scots.'

"Colonel M'Guire then spoke a few words in reply, and brought the old colours to me, and begged me to accept them. In doing so, I said I should take them to Windsor, and place them there, in recollection of the regiment and their colonel."

The rain continued persistently during the whole ceremony, but the royal carriage was kept open. Her Majesty records, "I was terribly nervous while speaking."

On the 22d of August Mr. Disraeli had been elevated to the peerage with the title of Earl of Beaconsfield. In his farewell to his constituents on taking his seat in the Upper House he wrote: "Throughout my public life I have aimed at two chief results. Not insensible to the principle of progress, I have endeavoured to reconcile change with that respect for tradition which is one of the main elements of our social strength; and in internal affairs I have endeavoured to develop and strengthen our empire, believing that combination of achievement and responsibility elevates the character and condition of a people." In December the Queen and Princess Beatrice honoured the prime-minister by visiting him at Hughenden Manor, where they remained to lunch, and before leaving planted two trees upon the lawn in front of the house. The little town of High Wycombe, through which the royal visitors had to drive, was a scene of the most intense enthusiasm, and was almost submerged in flags and decorations. One of the ornamental arches, formed of the chairs which are a staple manufacture of the district, was so remarkable that her Majesty and

the princess stopped for the purpose of examining it more closely.

Foreign affairs were at that time demanding earnest attention. A crisis was approaching in which it was difficult to discriminate between the claims of the unspeakable Turk and the unbelievable Russian, and while it appeared that England might be called upon to interpose, there was a strong tendency to advocate her interference by the sword in case her remonstrances should be fruitless, or should be rendered useless by the unscrupulous application of Russian "diplomacy."

During the Franco-German War, Russia had represented that as some of the provisions of the treaty made after the conclusion of the Crimean War had been disregarded, the clause restraining her from maintaining armaments in the Black Sea should be expunged. This was followed by a conference at Berlin, and after some discussion the demand, which had been put in the form of a request, was granted.

When, in 1875, there were signs of insurrection against Turkish rule in Herzegovina and other provinces, it soon became evident—even to those who did not credit the allegation that emissaries of the czar were stirring up disaffection against Turkey—that Russia would claim a right to interfere for the protection of the Christian population on the frontier of Eastern Europe from the oppression of their Turkish rulers. That the Turkish military government of these provinces was one of brutal tyranny could not be denied; and cruelties and persecutions, extortionate imposts, the corruption of the courts where causes were tried, and the unscrupulous rapacity of local rulers, made the people so desperate, that when European governments sent their consular agents to confer with the rebels and to induce them to disarm, they refused to do so

unless the European powers would send a strong body of troops for their protection until good laws were established, or would give them a corner of land to which they might emigrate, leaving Bosnia and Herzegovina to be formed into an autonomous state, tributary to the sultan.

Some advances were made by the Turkish government. Server Pasha was sent to the provinces in the name of the Porte, offering all sorts of administrative reforms, but the insurgents did not believe him. They had no reason to believe in the sincerity of a government the local representatives of which continued to commit barbarous punishments even on the peasants who, having fled, were induced to return to their homes by the promise of an amnesty. The real insurgents, the wretched people who cried for that independence which they had reason to expect from treaties the terms of which had been disregarded or annulled, were unwilling to be crushed either by Turkish or Russian oppressors. They refused to choose either the savage persecutions of the Bashi Bazouks, or the deadly despotism of Russian military rule, varied, without being mitigated, by a system of corruption and bribery which would perpetuate oppression similar to that of which they complained.

The three imperial governments of Russia, Austria, and Germany agreed that Count Andrassy, the Austrian chancellor, who possessed an intimate knowledge of Turkish affairs, should represent their opinions; and Austria had reason to dread a Slav rebellion on the borders of her own Slavonic provinces. The "Andrassy" note, as it was called, demanded from Turkey that the direct taxation of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be spent on the provinces themselves; that the taxes should no longer be farmed; that religious liberty should be established; and that a special commission, half the members of which should be

Mussulman and half Christian, should be appointed for carrying out these reforms. It was also urged that portions of the waste land of the state should be sold on easy terms to Christian cultivators of the soil, that the ownership of the land might no longer be confined to Mussulmans. Generally the sultan was advised to confirm his imperial promises, as further delay would cause Servia and Montenegro to join in the rebellion.

The proposals of the Andrassy note were supported by our government, who had been solicited by the Porte to join in the representations submitted should they be reasonable; but though the Turkish government were ready to concede all the other demands, that which dealt with the application of direct and indirect taxation was refused, so that although the note, as Lord Derby said, was little more than a demand for the fulfilment of former promises, very little more was heard of it; the revolt in the Danubian provinces continued, and it became evident that Russia intended to interfere.

At Constantinople there was a serious financial and political crisis. The government was insolvent, payment of the April dividends to bondholders was to be deferred, and by the elaborate schemes of European financiers a compromise was made. The sultan, Abdul Aziz, weak in mind and body, had become a cipher, and on the 30th of May was deposed by a *coup d'état*, and committed suicide by stabbing himself with a pair of scissors before he could be removed to one of the palaces where he was to remain in retirement. His nephew, Mehemet Murad, son of the former sultan Abdul Medjid, was placed on the throne, was found to be little better than an idiot, and on the 31st of August was in his turn removed to make way for his brother, Abdul Hamid. By that time the insurrection had extended, the rebels were fighting to the death, and Servia had

revolted with the assistance of numbers of Russian “volunteers.” The British Mediterranean fleet received orders to go to Besika Bay, not, as Lord Beaconsfield afterwards said, with the intention of menacing anybody, or to protect the Turkish Empire, but to protect the British Empire.

In spite of the news that the Mussulmans in Salonica had risen against the Europeans, and murdered the French and German consuls, and that horrible cruelties were being perpetrated in Bulgaria by the Turkish Bashi-Bazouks, public feeling here could not regard Russian intervention with complacency. Men, women, and children had been slain, tortured, burned to death, by savage Turkish troops sent to repress the rebellion. Twelve thousand persons had been killed at Philippopolis, a thousand poor wretches who had taken refuge in a church at Batak were fired upon from outside the windows, and burning faggots, and lighted rags dipped in petroleum, were flung into their midst from the roof. Mr. Gladstone urged that the European powers should combine to settle the Eastern question, and taking for his text the atrocities that were reported to have been committed in Bulgaria, demanded that the Turks should be compelled to clear out from the province which they had desolated and profaned.

There was a strong feeling in favour of this view; but on the other hand it was remembered that if the Turk could not be trusted, neither could the Russian. It was contended by those who supported the government that an interposition directed against Turkey would affect our influence in the East and open the door of Constantinople to the czar. Lord Beaconsfield declared that the European powers approved the neutral attitude of England; and it was urged, not without reason, that however little reliance could be placed on the

promises of the Porte, the art of dissimulation and of breach of treaties had been always practised at St. Petersburg; that Russian barbarism to the people of subjected provinces was as notorious as that of Turkey; and that the Emperor, while professing to desire to deliver the Danubian Principalities, had been artfully following the ceaseless policy which sought any pretext for assuming imperial power in the East. The czar emphatically declared that he had no hostile intentions towards Constantinople, and our government proposed an armistice and a conference of the powers at the Turkish capital to consider a scheme of reform and redisposition of the subject states. The czar, who was irritated by the persistent refusal of the Porte to agree to any proposals, and also, it was said, by the language used by Lord Beaconsfield at the civic banquet at Guildhall, threatened hostilities in the event of guarantees which he conceived he had a right to demand from Turkey being refused. The conference was held, and Lord Salisbury attended it; but the perversity and obstinacy of the representatives of the Porte were followed by their evading claims and refusing or deferring proposals for concession. War became inevitable, as no guarantees could be obtained. Our ambassador left Constantinople. Midhat Pasha, the grand vizier, who was believed to favour conciliation, was dismissed. When it was too late, the Porte, disappointed, perhaps, that England had not at the last moment been influenced to oppose Russian demands, concluded a treaty of peace with Servia, and as the Russian General Ignatieff visited London and Vienna on a special mission, it was thought that peace might after all be maintained; but the czar had already prepared for war, and was disinclined to waste the opportunity. On the 16th of April, 1877, he made a convention with Roumania for the passage of Russian troops through that territory, and on

the 24th declared war against Turkey. There were two Russian armies, one of which marched towards the Balkans and invaded Asia Minor, while the other crossed the Danube.

The Russian forces were increased and their equipment vastly improved, but they received several serious repulses at the commencement of a struggle upon which the Turkish troops entered with determined and inflexible courage. In the later months of 1877 the furious conflict in the Schipka Pass resulted in fearful slaughter on both sides, and at a strong position at Plevna, twenty miles south of the Danube, Omar Pasha, with 50,000 men, made a stand against a superior Russian force of 70,000, which he defeated. It was thought that the Turks had hopes of receiving material assistance from England in time to prevent an advance of the enemy which might have threatened Constantinople. Whether they expected this or not, they fought with unflinching bravery while it was possible to hold in check the enormously increased army, by which the Russian generals who invested the position intended, instead of preparing for a long campaign in the bitter winter weather of that inclement region, to end the struggle by the force of numbers and the use of tremendous engines of war. The sufferings on both sides were terrible, the number of the slain and wounded was appalling, before the Russians took Plevna and occupied the Schipka Pass. Before the end of January, 1878, they were in Adrianople, and nearly the whole of Roumania and Bulgaria was in their hands. The Turkish government was compelled to make overtures for an armistice. A report reached our government that the Russians had entered, or were about to enter, Constantinople, and that report, though it was not accurate, had the effect of silencing those who had opposed any determined demonstration. The British fleet was ordered to pass

through the Dardanelles, a passage having been granted by a firman obtained from the sultan by our ambassador. A vote of credit for six millions was asked for by the government as "a mark of confidence," and was carried with considerable difficulty. There was much agitation, and numerous meetings were held throughout the country. The fleet, instead of going to Constantinople, was countermanded to Besika Bay, and this was alleged to be in consequence of a communication from the Russian ambassador that preliminaries of peace had been proposed, and the Turkish government would not authorize British protection though Russia was threatening both Gallipoli and the capital. There appeared to be considerable uncertainty as to the position which the British government intended to assume after all. There was dissension in the cabinet, Lord Carnarvon resigned office, Lord Derby only remained after protest, and when, at a later date, orders were given to call out the military and naval reserves, to bring seven thousand native troops from India to Malta, to make preparations for occupying the island of Cyprus, and to land an armed force on the coast of Syria, he also resigned, and the Marquis of Salisbury was appointed to the direction of foreign affairs, Mr. Gathorne Hardy (Lord Cranbrook) having taken the control of the India office.

The situation of the government appeared to be embarrassing, for neither of the late antagonists now wanted British intervention; and when it was proposed to send a squadron of our fleet to protect European interests in the Turkish capital, where there was much disorder and crowds of refugees from the provinces were seeking an asylum, the Turkish officers in authority refused to recognize the demand, and Prince Gortschakoff maintained that if it became necessary to protect

European interests the Russian forces would join in that protection by occupying Constantinople and maintaining order on the land side. The British squadron therefore withdrew to an anchorage some miles distant, and the preliminaries of peace, which were discussed at San Stefano (a sea-side village ten miles from the capital) by the Grand-duke Nicholas and the representatives of the sultan, resulted in a treaty which Lord Derby denounced as an attempt to readjust the treaty of Paris without consulting the other powers. It was seen that Russia would not only claim a large indemnity, but would extend Bulgaria into a state, of which she would practically have a control that would enable her to dictate to the whole of South-eastern Europe. It was this discovery which led to calling out the reserves, and to demonstrations approaching such a hostile character that they were no less than a menace to support the demand for a European conference. To such a conference, which was held at Berlin in June, 1878, Russia agreed to submit the terms of the treaty; and, rather to the surprise of the public, Lord Beaconsfield himself attended it in company with Lord Salisbury. The result of the consultation was that a treaty was concluded by which Austria occupied and organized Bosnia and the Herzegovina; Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro were to be independent states; Bulgaria, with the Balkans as its southern frontier, was made tributary to the sultan, but with an independent government under a prince elected by the people with the assent of the contracting powers and the confirmation of the sultan. South of the Balkans a state was to be erected, under the name of Eastern Roumelia, under the authority of the sultan, who, however, was pledged not to send thither any of those irregular troops whose atrocities had aroused so much indignation. Roumania was to receive

from Russia part of the Dobrudscha, including Silistria and Magnolia, and was to cede to Russia in return a part of Bessarabia which had been detached by the treaty of 1856; and the Porte was to hand over to Russia, Ardahan, Kars, and Batoum, and to pay a war indemnity. The island of Cyprus was ceded to England.

It will be seen that in relation to recent events this outline of the professed objects of the Russo-Turkish War, and its results in the supposed re-establishment of the Principalities, has no little significance. After the conclusion of the treaty of Berlin it transpired that there had been a diplomatic correspondence and some arrangements of our government with Russia and Turkey by which certain clauses of the treaty had been settled beforehand, and when this was revealed much indignation was expressed by the opposition in parliament. It may also be remembered that the Marquis of Salisbury did not regard the clauses of the treaty as a final settlement, to remain unaffected by later changes and developments.

These foreign complications could not be other than causes of grave anxiety to the Queen. While reading the "foreign intelligence" of changes and events on which great national issues may depend, it is seldom that we pause to reflect how the policy which they indicate may affect the domestic ties and close personal relationships of the Sovereign, who is called upon painfully to discriminate between the claims of friendship or of family affection, and the demands of political consistency or of national honour, to say nothing of diplomatic expediency.

In the autumn of 1876 the Princess Alice was, as we have seen, in Scotland, in the hope of recovering from the debility and depression which made her an invalid much against her will. She even feared, when she wrote from the hotel at Edinburgh,

that when she went to stay at Balmoral she should be unable to go down to dinner for the first evenings of her visit. She wrote also on the Sunday: "It is so wonderfully still here, not a soul in the streets. The people of the house have sent up several times to inquire when and to what church I was going; so I shall go, as it seems to shock them, one's staying away. I shall see the monument this afternoon, and go and see Holyrood again. The whole journey here brought back, with the well-remembered scenery, the recollection of my childhood, all the happy journeys with dear papa and you. How the treasured remembrance with the deep love lives on, when all else belongs to the past!"

Before her return to Darmstadt, in the latter part of November, the princess made some stay at Buckingham Palace, and her strength and health had so much improved that she had little doubt of being well again by the winter. She went with Dean Stanley to see Mr. Carlyle, and with the Princess Louise to visit Mr. Motley, the American historian.

On her return to Darmstadt this renewed strength was necessary for fulfilling duties which were soon to devolve upon her. Her father-in-law, Prince Charles of Hesse, had for some time been ailing, and on the 20th of March (1877) died, greatly regretted by all who knew him for his kindly gentle disposition, and refined and cultivated intellect. Little more than a month afterwards his brother, the grand-duke, who had been greatly affected by his death, was himself attacked with serious illness, and died on the 13th of June at the age of seventy-one. By this event the husband of Princess Alice succeeded to the throne as Grand-duke Louis IV., and the princess suddenly found herself in a position involving great additional responsibilities. Through them all she found a

constant solace in corresponding with the royal mother in England, seeking her counsel, conferring with her in difficulties and trials, conveying the sense of tender, if sad, recollections, and speaking words of gentle hope and faith. Always on or near that day of sorrowful memory, the 14th of December, the daughter wrote of the great grief that made the time sacred. A passage in one of the letters, written from Darmstadt, gave the key-note of that immortal faith and living trust which could see, as it were, beyond the grave, and yet remain susceptible to the intensity of human feeling: "God is very merciful in letting time temper the sharpness of one's grief, and letting sorrow find its natural place in our hearts, without withdrawing us from life!"

The grand-duchess did not spare herself from any of those works of charity of which she had long been the active promoter, nor did she relax her care for her children because of the responsibilities of a station which involved an increase of duties to society and to the state. Unhappily she was ready to tax her strength far beyond the limits of prudence, and it too soon became evident that the vigour of her constitution had been impaired. Though, during the previous year, the grand-duke and duchess had been much with the Crown-prince and Princess of Germany while they were all staying at Wiesbaden, the grand-duchess was not strong enough to accompany her husband to Berlin on the occasion of the marriage of the Princess Charlotte of Prussia, eldest daughter of the crown-prince and princess, to the hereditary prince of Saxe-Meiningen, and of the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of the late Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, with the hereditary Grand-duke of Oldenburg.

The royal order of Victoria and Albert, which had been instituted in February, 1862, and subsequently extended, was

designed for conferring upon ladies a distinguishing mark of the approval of the sovereign; and in January, 1878, her Majesty instituted another order specially relating to her Indian Empire, and entitled "The Imperial Order of the Crown of India," for ladies who were associated with services which might be considered to entitle them to the honour. The royal princesses were included in both orders, and in April, 1878, her Majesty held an investiture of that of India at Windsor Castle, and personally conferred the badge of the order on ladies of distinction.

The year, as we have seen, was marked by much public agitation on the subject of the attitude of the government in relation to the war between Russia and Turkey. The effects of the recent famine in India had not altogether disappeared, though considerable sums of money had been collected for the relief fund, and promptly expended in the purchase and distribution of food to the suffering districts. Much uneasiness existed because of certain signs of fresh trouble in Afghanistan.

Her Majesty, though naturally much interested in the marriage of her granddaughter in Berlin, was occupied during the early months of the year with pressing duties of the state occasioned by the diplomatic difficulties of the government. In the early summer an event occurred which doubtless touched her sensitive and reflective nature. Her cousin, who had been the blind King of Hanover, died in Paris, and his body was brought to England to be placed in the tomb of his race in the royal vault of St. George's Chapel at Windsor.

Of greater public significance had been the death, on the 28th of May, of the veteran statesman Earl Russell, who had nearly completed his eighty-sixth year. He had lived so long a life in the service of the country, and had done so much for the

state and for the people, that he may be said to have become an historical personage, for the later years of his advanced age had been spent in peaceful retirement, and he was regarded only as an honoured memory in political life. His conspicuous services could not be forgotten either by the nation or by his sovereign, who sent a wreath to be placed upon his coffin inscribed as a token of regard.

Before leaving Osborne for the north her Majesty held a review of a portion of the fleet at Spithead in very inclement weather. Storms of wind and rain and the presence of crowds of shipping made it undesirable to go through all the evolutions which had been proposed, and though our fleet in order of review always presents a beautiful spectacle, the rather dreary influence of the weather was increased by the sight of the wreck of the training-ship *Eurydice*, which had foundered off Ventnor in a violent squall with three hundred men and boys on board. This calamity caused much emotion in the country, and the Queen, who was deeply grieved, made anxious inquiries and sent messages of condolence expressing her heart-felt sympathy with the afflicted friends and relatives. A paragraph in the *Annual Register* said: "That the men of the *Eurydice*, lying dead in the waste of waters, have left troops of attentive friends behind them to mourn their tragic fate has been touchingly proved. One day more than a thousand letters addressed to men on board the ship passed through the returned letter office. They were sent on from Bermuda marked 'Sailed for England,' and redirected to Portsmouth. There they arrived three days after the anxious spirits who had been waiting for news from home had gone to their last rest, and were sent back to the general post-office ominously stamped with the words 'Ship foundered.'"

When, on the evening of the 23d of August, her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, steamed across from Osborne in the *Alberta*, they "saw the poor *Eurydice* lying close off what is called 'No Man's Land!'" The Queen was on the way to the train which was to convey her, with the prince and princess, to Scotland, and passing close to the *Osborne* they "saw Bertie, Alix, the boys, and the King of Denmark standing on the paddle-box."

Before going to Balmoral a visit was paid to the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe at Broxmouth, about a mile and a quarter from Dunbar. Here, almost directly after her arrival, the Queen received the sad intelligence of the death of Madame Van de Weyer. Her Majesty was much affected, for since the year 1840 and till his death M. Van de Weyer had been the beloved and honoured friend of the royal family. The wife who had survived him for so short a time therefore held a very definite place in the Queen's regard. "We saw so much of her with him . . . and so much of them both when they were at Abergeldie in 1867, 1868, and 1870. They were always most kind to us and to our children, who grew up with theirs; and when my great sorrow came, who was kinder and more ready to help than dear M. Van de Weyer? Then, after his and her poor son Albert's death she talked so openly to me, and I tried to comfort her. . . . Another link with the past gone!—with my beloved one, with dearest Uncle Leopold, and with Belgium! I feel ever more and more alone! Poor Louise Van de Weyer, who has been everything to her mother since Albert's death, and Nellie, how I feel for them!"

The visit to Broxmouth included some pleasant drives and excursions, in one of which, to Tantallon, there was a good deal of enthusiasm displayed; and at the West Port of Dunbar

a number of young ladies and girls literally pelted the royal party with small nosegays until the carriage was full of them. At some distance further on this journey, at Knochindale Hill, the Queen of England had the gratification of seeing the queen of the English gypsies from Norwood—an oldish-looking woman, a thorough gypsy, with a scarlet cloak and a yellow handkerchief round her head, attended by two other women, one youngish and very dark, in velvet and a red shawl. The gypsies had pitched their camp at the old watch-tower hill of Knockenhair, and evidently appeared in state to greet their Sovereign Lady in a manner becoming to themselves and their own queen, for her Majesty records: “Men in red hunting-coats, all very dark, and all standing on a platform here, bowed and waved their handkerchiefs. It was the English queen of the gypsies from *Norwood*, and not the Scottish Border one.” A distinction which shows with what careful attention her Majesty is accustomed, on formal or state occasions, to accord to each and all their precise rank and station.

The Queen took leave of the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe with real regret, for the visit had been a very pleasant one, distinguished for quiet hospitable arrangements for her Majesty’s comfort.

The first weeks of September were spent in the usual manner at Balmoral; but later in the month there was much anxiety on behalf of Sir Thomas Biddulph, who was lying ill at Abergeldie Mains, where he was staying with his family. Her Majesty had been to see him, and on the 25th repeated her visit accompanied by the Duchess of Roxburghe, who was then at Balmoral. While the Queen was speaking to Lady Biddulph, Sir William Jenner, who was attending the patient, came in to say that Sir Thomas would like to see her Majesty.

The Queen found him looking very ill, though able to speak quite loud. But few words were said—few were needed. “I stood looking at him, and took his hand,” the Queen afterwards wrote in her journal, “and he said, ‘You are very kind to me;’ and I answered, pressing his hand, ‘You have always been very kind to *me!*’”

Another visit was made on the 28th, when the Queen found that her faithful friend and servant was worse, and she went to the door of the room, and there stood to look at him, much overcome with grief. Her Majesty with the Princess Beatrice, who had accompanied her, went back to Balmoral, intending to return to Abergeldie Mains in the afternoon; but at about one o'clock there came a note from Sir William Jenner to say that Sir Thomas had passed away. The Queen and the princess were much distressed that they had not remained at the house. The Queen's journal records, in words of sorrow and of sympathy for those who were bereaved, the loss of an upright, disinterested, and devoted friend, who, under a somewhat undemonstrative manner, was the kindest and most tender-hearted of men. On the day when, after a short but impressive funeral service in the house, the honoured remains were conveyed to Ballater and thence to Windsor, accompanied by the sorrowing widow and her two children, her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice were present, and the Prince of Wales with the noblemen and gentlemen of the suite followed the coffin to the station, while the Queen remained for a short time to share a grief of which she well knew the bitterness.

The year was to end in sorrow—in a deeper grief than any that had befallen the Queen since the darkest hour of her life. The shadow of it was looming beyond the temporary sadness of parting with the Princess Louise, who in November set

out on the voyage to Canada with her husband the Marquis of Lorne, who had been appointed governor-general. They arrived at Ottawa on the 23d of the month, but by that time the Queen was suffering an agony of suspense and anxiety on account of her daughter and the children at Darmstadt.

The Princess Alice, with her husband the grand-duke and their children, had spent the summer months of the year in England, at Eastbourne, and had visited the Queen at Osborne. During their stay the princess had shown her usual earnest interest in the working of charitable institutions and associations for the relief of distress,¹ and had by personal visits and careful inquiry sought a thorough acquaintance with the working of female refuges and penitentiaries under the management of Mrs. Murray Vicars at Brighton. In a quiet and unpretentious manner the princess learned what were the needs of the poor, and her visits to them or to schools and benevolent organizations were those of a learner and a helper rather than a patroness. Her heart was in such work, and on her return to Darmstadt she resumed her personal exertions for maintaining those institutions that she had founded or extended; but her failing strength was no longer equal to the fatigue which such duties occasioned. On the 6th of November she wrote to the Queen that it was an absolute necessity that she should lead a very quiet life, that it was depressing to be as she was, but that their home life was always pleasant, and never dull, however quiet; only, that a feeling of weariness and incapacity was in itself a trial. This letter had scarcely been received by the Queen when it was followed by a telegram, the precursor of other messages of alternate fear and hope and deep anxiety. The remaining strength of the devoted

¹ In July, 1882, Princess Helena (the Princess Christian) laid the foundation-stone of a Memorial Hospital named after the Princess Alice in Eastbourne.

princess must be given to those near and dear to her, to her children and her husband. She who had never spared herself in tending the sick and the suffering was now to forget herself utterly, and to be strong, even in her weakness, with the might of love.

On the 8th of November her eldest daughter, the Princess Victoria, was suddenly attacked with diphtheria, a disorder of which the Princess Alice, courageous as she was in the presence of illness, always had a peculiar horror. None could tell how or whence the disease had come, and though the patient was at once isolated from the rest of the household not one of the family escaped it except the Princess Elizabeth, the second daughter, who was sent to her grandmother's, Princess Charles' palace.

Through the very brief telegrams and letters sent to the Queen during that time we seem to witness the scene of pain and sorrow during that sad and fatal month in the palace at Darmstadt. We can see the weak fragile form rising superior to its own need of rest and changeful leisure; the arrival of nurses and the lady superintendent from the hospital which the princess herself first organized; the taking of the direction and the responsibility by the wife and mother, whose tender patient gentleness, learned first at the bedside of a beloved father, keeps her manner calm, her face smiling, though her heart is in an agony of dread. We see one after another of those beloved children touched by the disease that threatens their lives. As day follows day they fall ill, the father and his little son both at once on the 14th of November, while all are lying suffering from the same disease, and all seriously, except the eldest, who is recovering. The two youngest girls, on whom the mother's heart has so lately dwelt with sweet admiration and affection, are worst; and on the 15th, the darling of all, the little

"May," is fading fast—the "sunshine" of the house is paling in the shadow, and the light of the mother's life burns low.

We see the wife next day tending her sick husband as she thinks how best to tell him that the darkness of the night remains in one of the chambers of that home; that as the morning broke the living day-beam was taken into the glory of heaven; we note the anguish that she tries to still as she looks into the face of her darling boy and notes how near he too may be to that little grave where his infant brother was laid not very long ago; but with a pain beyond words she yet whispers, "God's will be done!" and waits. Watching with grateful heart she sees the first favourable sign of returning health. There is hope that they will all recover, and then—rest—rest!

We dimly see the last painful parting with all that is mortal of her babe, the darkened room, the little closed coffin covered with its silken pall and hidden with flowers, the mother kneeling near it and pressing a corner of the pall to her lips, before she rises to listen to the simple, solemn funeral service. Ah! that last long loving look, as though she could see, through the casket, the earthly jewel, itself no more than a casket from which the real jewel has been taken. She goes out slowly into the hall, and with light, silent step, but slowly and wearily, ascends the broad stairs to the landing, where, kneeling down and grasping the golden balustrade, she gazes into the mirror that adorns the wall. Reflected there she can see the little coffin as it is taken from the house. She had arranged every detail of the funeral, and now only long gentle sighs, that scarcely move the stillness of the air, tell of her grief, as she rises and seeks the room where her husband lies, still too ill to be told of what she has had to bear.

With alternations of hope and fear the patients slowly recovered. On the 6th of December her husband, with his little son, drove out in a closed carriage. The sympathy of the people had been warmly manifested during the time of affliction, and the princess desired her warmest thanks to be expressed to them. Her letters to the Queen, brief as they necessarily were, contained expressions of tender grateful affection, and of the sense of divine help and comfort. In two of her later letters she wrote: "So many deep and solemn lessons one learns in these times, and I believe all works together for good for those who believe in God. . . . So many pangs and pains come, and must yet for years to come. Still, gratitude for those left is *so* strong, and indeed resignation entire and complete to a higher will, and so we all feel together, and encourage each other. Life is *not* endless in this world, God be praised! There is much joy, but oh! so much trial and pain; and, as the number of those one loves increases in heaven, it makes our passage easier—and *home* is there!"

To that home she was going. On the 7th of December, a few days after those words were written, she first complained of feeling ill. On the following morning symptoms of the disease from which those dear to her had suffered were apparent. Her work was done. Almost the last letter, if not actually the last, that she wrote was one of instructions to the tutor who had been selected for her beloved boy, Prince Ernest, a letter impressing upon the teacher the moral and religious training of her son to truth, kindly charity, courage, unselfishness, the fear of God, and submission to the Divine will. The last letter that she read was one from her mother; this indeed was one of her last conscious acts on the morning of the 15th of December. She had during her illness, and with intervals of much suffering

and prostration, written many directions on slips of paper, and spoken many tender words of inquiry about her household and others, including the sick poor in the town. She was as one leaving the world though she did not appear to think that she should die; but the doctors could no longer disguise from the grand-duke that the beloved wife, the devoted mother, was passing to the heavenly rest.

After the apparent rally of vitality which so often precedes death, the Princess Alice fell into a profound sleep, from which she awoke quite conscious, and after taking some slight nourishment said: "Now, I will go to sleep again." It was over the bridge of sleep that she entered the blessed land. Those who stood around her and with yearning hearts saw the indefinable change that came upon the beloved face in the first morning hour of the 14th of December, knew that they looked only upon the earthly robe of her who was then beyond recall. Some hours afterwards, at half-past eight, the last consciousness of this life, strangely seeming to be united with the life past and the ever-present and only real life which we call the world to come, fluttered on her lips in the words: "From Friday to Saturday—four weeks—May—dear papa!"

It was exactly four weeks since the death of the Princess "May," and seventeen years since that 14th of December when the death of the Prince Consort had left the royal home desolate.

No words can express the overwhelming sense of bereavement under which her Majesty suffered when the dreaded message reached her at Windsor. Happily, in this hour of trial the Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Leopold, who had arrived at the castle on the previous evening, were there to share the grief, and aid in breaking the shock of it to the Queen and the Princess Beatrice.

They had met to attend the memorial service which was to be held on the following day at the mausoleum at Frogmore, where the Hon. and Very Rev. Gerald Wellesley, Dean of Windsor, was to have officiated. But her Majesty was too much bowed down with sorrow and previous anxiety to be able to attend this observance of a service, which, in such circumstances would have been too painful, and was therefore postponed.

Quiet manifestations of sincere grief for the death of our Princess Alice, and of deep sympathy for the Queen and the royal family, were made in this country and abroad. It need not be said that there were signs of mourning throughout Germany; and in Darmstadt and the neighbouring districts high and low, rich and poor, every man, woman, and child, and perhaps especially those belonging to the humbler classes, felt that they had lost a personal friend and benefactress. The sorrow was profound, and the tokens of it were to be found not only in blinded windows and lowered flags, but in the sad faces of people in the streets, in hushed and low-toned conversation, in the tears and bowed heads of many, in the long and constant succession of people of all ranks admitted to visit the solemn chamber where the light was dim and funeral tapers burned, and where the coffin lay embowered in flowers and palms, which were minute by minute piled higher, with wreaths of costly bloom sent from afar or brought by loving hands, which had written tributes of deep affection, or with the humble funeral garlands and tiny posies of sweet common flowers brought by the poor and lowly and by little children, who, knowing not the mystery of death, wept because the dear princess whom they had learned to love and who had cared that they should be healed and taught and fed, had left them and gone to heaven.

On the evening of the 17th of December all that was mortal

of the beloved princess was taken from the palace to the chapel in the old grand-ducal castle, and on the following day the coffin was placed in the mausoleum at the Rosenhöhe. The Prince of Wales and Prince Leopold had left Windsor and travelled to Darmstadt to be present.

At Windsor the members of the royal family who were in England joined, with the royal household, in a solemn service. That Christmastide was a time of seclusion, and though the usual benefactions and kindly observances were enhanced and emphasized rather than diminished, there were, of course, none of the customary festivities of the season. The Queen had retired to Osborne, and thence, on the 26th of December, addressed to the secretary for the home department a message which her Majesty desired should be communicated to the country, expressing publicly her heart-felt thanks for the universal and most touching sympathy shown to her by all classes of her loyal and faithful subjects. Overwhelmed with grief at the loss of a dear child who was a bright example of loving tenderness, courageous devotion, and self-sacrifice to duty, it was most soothing to the Queen's feelings to see how actively her grief was shared by her people. The Queen's deeply-afflicted son-in-law, the Grand-duke of Hesse, was also anxious to make known his sincere gratitude for the kind feelings expressed towards himself and his dear children in their terrible bereavement, and his gratification at the appreciation shown by the people of England of the noble and endearing qualities of her whom they all mourned. The Queen also reminded her people how, seventeen years before, at that very time, when a similar bereavement crushed her happiness, that beloved and lamented daughter was her great comfort and support, the nation evincing the same touching sympathy, as well as when,

in December, 1871, the Prince of Wales was at the point of death. Such an exhibition of true and tender feeling, the Queen assured her subjects, would ever remain engraven on her heart, and was the more to be valued at that moment of great distress in the country, which no one could deplore more than the Queen herself.

Her Majesty had already gathered about her the motherless children from Darmstadt until the bitterness of their loss was assuaged and their health established. At the mausoleum in the Rosenhöhe over the spot where the remains of the Grand-duchess Alice rest, is a beautiful monument by Boehm representing the recumbent figure of the Princess holding the Princess May in her arms. In the mausoleum at Frogmore loving memorials of her daughter were placed by order of the Queen, who had, however, caused a very beautiful memorial cross to be set up at Balmoral. This was completed in the late spring of 1879, and on the 22d of May her Majesty, immediately on her arrival at Balmoral, walked out with Princess Beatrice to see it. It is a four-sided pyramidal monument, surmounted by a cross intersecting and containing a circle. The whole is of Aberdeenshire granite, twelve feet three inches high, and the inscription on one side of the monument is:

TO THE DEAR MEMORY
OF
ALICE, GRAND-DUCHESS OF HESSE,
PRINCESS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
BORN APRIL 25, 1843; DIED DEC. 14, 1878,
THIS IS ERECTED BY HER SORROWING MOTHER,
QUEEN VICTORIA.

“Her name shall live, though now she is no more.”

The arrival of her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice on that day in the late spring was inevitably sad. The whole succession of events at Darmstadt, the dreadful anxiety for the sick children, the sorrow for the dear little "May," and the crowning grief of the death of the beloved daughter, came before the Queen; and there had been another loss after that great bereavement, the little Prince Waldemar, the third and youngest son of the Crown-princess of Germany, had died on the 27th of March, shortly after his eleventh birthday.

The year 1879 had also commenced with somewhat gloomy, if not threatening, conditions of the political atmosphere. There was much distress in the country, large numbers of workmen were on strike, and trade generally appeared to be depressed. At the same time troubles had again arisen in Afghanistan and we were on the verge of a painful conflict in South Africa, the end of which could not be very easily perceived, even by those who were best acquainted with complications there.

At the time that our government was protesting against the advance of the Russian force upon the Turkish provinces, a Russian envoy had been sent to Cabul for the purpose, as it appeared, of concluding some alliance with the ameer, who, in return, despatched an envoy to Tashkend. It was at the same time believed that movements of Russian troops towards the frontier had commenced, for the purpose, it was supposed, of diverting British power in the event of war in Europe because of the interference of the czar in the Principalities. Since 1869, when Lord Mayo paid him a visit and gave him six lacs of rupees and some artillery, we had done nothing to help Shere Ali, who after repeated hostilities with his brothers had not gained firm possession of the Afghan capital till 1868. It was understood, however, that though we could not promise to supply him with

the means of repelling any advance made by Russia, we should resent his favouring any such advance, especially as he had objected to the residence of a British envoy at Cabul, on the ground that he could not be responsible for the personal security of any European representative.

Now that General Stolieteff with his suite had been received as Russian envoy, the ameer was requested to give similar privileges to a British mission, and at the same time a native expert was sent to explain to the ameer the purpose of the mission and the reasons why its rejection would be regarded as an act of hostility. The mission was sent, but by the time that its members reached the Khyber Pass, Major Cavagnari, our envoy, who had advanced to Fort Ali Masjid, was compelled to return, and the mission was threatened with forcible resistance. While the government was considering whether war should be immediately declared, an evasive letter was received from Shere Ali; and an ultimatum was then despatched to Cabul demanding from the ameer a suitable apology and the reception of a permanent British mission. As no answer was received on the 20th of November, the day named as the limit of the time for concessions, the war began, and again people here were talking of the Khyber Pass, by which one of the three columns which composed the British force, under the command of Sir Samuel Browne, was advancing upon Afghan territory and reached Dacca, while General Biddulph's column moved from Quetta towards Candahar, and General Roberts, with his small force in the Kuram Valley, fought his way, taking the fortified positions of the Peiwar Pass, and driving the Afghans before him in disorder. On the 20th of December General Browne marched into Jellalabad. Shere Ali had fled from Cabul into Balkh, towards Russian Turkestan, leaving neither an organized

government nor a regular army. His son Yakoob Khan was released, and took the nominal rule at Cabul.

It was believed that he would soon come to terms, especially when Shere Ali died and there was no longer any doubt about his title. Still the negotiations for peace appeared to make little progress. A portion of General Browne's column was marched to Gundamuk, half-way between Jellalabad and Cabul, and then Yakoob presented himself in the British camp, and after a number of vexatious interviews with Major Cavagnari accepted a treaty of peace, which was signed on the 25th of May. The frontier previously marked out was ceded—the "scientific frontier" which Lord Beaconsfield had declared to be that required by the government. The territory to be annexed was minimized; the Afghans retained all their chief towns.

These public anxieties and the strenuous contention with which the action of the government in the affairs of India was received in parliament demanded the attention of the Queen immediately after the grief which she had suffered from the loss of her beloved daughter, and at the same time events of domestic, as well as those of national importance were deeply interesting the royal family, the principal of these being the approaching marriage of Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, to the Princess Louise Marguerite, daughter of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia.

The princess arrived in England with her father and mother on the 11th of March, and the wedding was celebrated on the 13th at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, all the members of the royal family being present with her Majesty on the occasion. The ceremony was conducted with state observances similar to those which characterized previous royal weddings, and

the scene was very brilliant and imposing. The bridegroom was accompanied by his brothers, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, and the bride, walking between her father and the Crown-prince of Germany, was attended by eight bridesmaids.

Her Majesty, who much needed the restoration which is often to be found in change of scene, had made arrangements for a visit to Italy, and on the 25th embarked for Cherbourg accompanied by the Princess Beatrice, continuing the journey to Paris, and thence to Lake Maggiore, where the sad intelligence reached them of the death of Prince Waldemar, youngest son of the Crown-princess of Prussia. Her Majesty remained for nearly a month of repose amidst the scenery of that charming country with much benefit to her health, and on the 23d of April returned by way of Milan, Turin, Paris, and Cherbourg, to Osborne. On the 12th of May came news of the birth of her Majesty's first great-grandchild, the daughter of her grandchild the Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, eldest daughter of our Princess Royal, the Crown-princess of Prussia. The heart of our Sovereign Lady was full of tender memories, of mingled joy and grief, when in that springtide she returned to the home at Balmoral.

Again events were happening which claimed earnest attention. At the beginning of the year there had been troubles in Zululand, and there were signs of hostilities between our comparatively small forces and the large and formidable native army of the Zulu chief or king, Cetewayo. Affairs in South Africa had assumed a threatening aspect, and it was no easy task to investigate the claims of the different states or to estimate their alleged grievances. Cape Colony and Natal were directly under British control; but the Transvaal, the

territory north of the Vaal river, was a Dutch republic with about 40,000 European inhabitants and 250,000 Kafirs and natives; and the Orange Free State had been formed by Dutch settlers who had emigrated from Cape Colony because they disliked British control. On the north, beyond the Limpopo river and the border of the Transvaal, was the wilderness, the vast interior where Moffat and Livingstone had visited the Bechuanas and other great tribes. Next to the Orange State lay Basutoland and Natal, both under British rule; and bordering on Natal was the country of the Zulus.

The conflicting claims of the populations of these territories were such as to make any attempt to reconcile them a very difficult task, and it was a misfortune that our government had not a more complete knowledge of the conditions under which we should be justified in resorting to armed intervention. Our representatives, either for want of definite instructions or by an assumption of responsibility to which they were not entitled, committed errors which led to such serious disasters that the ministry here was compelled to disavow the policy that had been pursued, and to pronounce a severe rebuke upon the high commissioner who had been sent out to arbitrate, but who, impatiently yielding to his own conclusions, hurried us unprepared into a war with the great Zulu tribes for the sake of the Boers, who hated us, and who repudiated the terms on which it was supposed they accepted our interposition. As soon as we had relieved them from the danger of being overwhelmed by the natives whom they had treated with cruel injustice, they turned upon the small British force which had been sent for the protection of the territory which they had been unable to defend.

In 1874 we had suppressed an insurrection of the natives

under a chief named Langalibabele, who was punished with imprisonment, and it would seem that there was a too ready propensity among some persons in authority to regard as rebellion any effort of the Zulus to resist the oppression of the Boers. At the same time those who were best acquainted with them, including Dr. Colenso, Bishop of Natal, declared that they were not to be confounded with mere savages, but had certain claims to be considered as a people half-civilized, and with well-grounded complaints of the injustice and mis-understanding from which they suffered, especially at the hands of the subjects of the South African Volksraad. There were tribal conflicts among the Zulus themselves; and between Cetewayo and a rival chieftain Secocoeni there was a feud, as each claimed the supreme authority; but they united in their hatred of the common foe, and Secocoeni had inflicted a defeat on the Boers of the Transvaal in 1876. He was now, in 1879, holding a defiant attitude towards us; while Cetewayo, equally detesting the Boers, whom he believed to be his bitter enemies, and who had seized upon territory beyond their own which he declared belonged to his people, professed a strong desire to be friendly with the English, and to pay allegiance to the Queen. Without entering on the question whether it was wise for our government to propose even a nominal annexation of the Transvaal to British territory as the best means of affording protection to the Boers, it was undoubtedly a serious error to act upon the proposal without having the terms and particulars clearly set forth, and obtaining from the government of the Volksraad a complete and undeniable agreement.

We must remember that at that time there was no telegraphic communication between this country and Natal; and it was alleged that Sir Theophilus Shepstone, who was sent out to

make propositions for concluding a treaty, proclaimed the annexation without waiting for a decided confirmation either there or at home.

On the other hand, our government, undertaking to arbitrate on Cetewayo's claim, decided in his favour, and sent out Sir Bartle Frere as high commissioner, who, after a delay which appears to have made the Zulu chief suspicious of his good faith, demanded, as a condition of the award, that the Zulu forces should be disarmed and disbanded and return to their homes. As this demand was not immediately complied with, hostilities were precipitately commenced, and as a result there came news of the defeat of a division of our troops at a place called Isandlana, and the further intelligence that the number and strength of the Zulus, and the ability of the chiefs, had been so greatly underestimated that the columns sent to enforce obedience could scarcely hold their positions, and suffered severe loss. But for the indomitable courage and adroit defence of a position at a place called Rorke's Drift, the retreat of Lord Chelmsford might have been cut off, and it was for some time feared that the Zulus would make a determined invasion of Natal. Our force, which included a number of natives, was compelled to act on the defensive, and though the Zulus were heavily repulsed in an attack on Colonel Wood's camp, their renewed energy and apparently dauntless courage made it difficult to deal with them until the arrival of reinforcements, so that after relieving the beleaguered garrisons Lord Chelmsford found it inexpedient to resume the offensive, especially as there were rumours of an agitation among the Pondo tribe, and the fierce Basuto chief Moirosi had repulsed the troops of Cape Colony who had been sent to attack him.

The government was repeatedly assailed for the South

African policy, and a vote of censure was moved in both houses of parliament, which, though it did not upset the government, somewhat affected its stability. At the end of May it was announced that General Sir Garnet Wolseley had been appointed the Queen's high commissioner for Natal, the Transvaal, and the neighbouring countries; but Sir Bartle Frere remained governor and high commissioner for the Cape, and Lord Chelmsford was not superseded, though the supreme command would of course belong to Sir Garnet Wolseley. Before the general had reached Natal, however, Lord Chelmsford and the officers under his command had put an end to the war. Reinforcements had reached him from the Mauritius and from home, and two columns under General Newdigate and General Wood closed steadily upon the Zulu army which defended Cetewayo's kraal. His forces being defeated, the Zulu king fled to the bush, where he was captured on the 28th of August, and sent as a prisoner to Cape Town. Lord Chelmsford, Sir Evelyn Wood, and other officers returned from South Africa, and the terms of peace offered by Sir Garnet Wolseley were accepted by the chiefs and the people of Zululand, which was to be organized in thirteen separate governments, all under the control of a British resident, but native laws and customs to be respected, and European immigration to be forbidden. In November the Basutos on the banks of the Orange River were reduced to submission by the colonial volunteers, and Moirosi was killed at the storming of his kraal. At about the same time Sir Garnet Wolseley's forces had beleaguered the strongholds of Secocoeni, which were stormed early in December, the chief being made prisoner. It then remained to consider the attitude of the Transvaal Boers, who, having maintained a sulky and what may be called a hostile neutrality while our troops were

subjugating their Zulu foes, had declared to Sir Bartle Frere that they were resolved not to submit to annexation. Sir Garnet Wolseley, on his visit to Pretoria after the conclusion of peace, admonished them that annexation had already been proclaimed and was an irreversible act, and there, of course, the matter had to be left at that time. At the Cape more effectual measures were adopted for defence, and immediate telegraphic communication was established between England and Natal by a cable from Durban to Mozambique, Zanzibar, and Aden, where it joined the Eastern Telegraph Company's main line.

The incidents of the Zulu war were followed by the public here with great interest and with much anxiety. The usual rather contemptuous manner of regarding even a serious conflict with savage or semi-savage races was mitigated by the news which came of the powerful and determined resistance of the South African warriors, and stories of their ferocity were accompanied by some expressions of admiration for their undoubted courage.

General feeling was greatly intensified by the startling intelligence that Prince Louis Napoleon, son of Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugenie, had been killed while out with a reconnoitring party in Zululand. The young prince, whose home was with his widowed mother at Chislehurst, had been educated here to enter the military academy at Woolwich, where he gave much promise of becoming proficient in military attainments. He already had a strong desire to see something of active service, and as he had many friends among the officers he sought and obtained permission to attend the campaign in South Africa, not, of course, in any command, nor even as a combatant.

Such permission should perhaps have been refused, but as it was given it necessarily included participation in some of the dangers of the service, and the prince was not at all likely to be deterred from joining a party in reconnoitring, or to refrain from seeking a place among those who were actively engaged in camp duties, though he had not been rated as an officer, and in fact held an anomalous position as a looker-on.

On the 1st of June he was allowed—or perhaps “took French leave”—to go out with a reconnoitring party—a captain and eight troopers, and not perceiving any signs of the enemy they sought temporary shelter from the intense heat in a gully or small valley where there was some vegetation. There they dismounted to feed their horses and for a short rest, and appear to have been entirely off their guard, when they were suddenly attacked by a body of Zulus, who must either have been concealed amidst the long grass of some part of the valley, or must stealthily have approached with amazing swiftness.

The small divided party, surprised by the attack of a number of the enemy, probably found it impossible to act in concert, and each man was concerned in regaining his horse and galloping away. It was not till they had rejoined at some distance that they appear to have discovered that the Prince Imperial was not one of their number, and they then rode back to the scene of the attack. He had failed to regain his horse and to mount before the Zulus were upon him, and though he had evidently defended himself with determined courage, his body lay pierced with thirteen wounds from the assegais of his assailants. When the intelligence reached England there was a general feeling of sorrow for the bereaved mother, the ex-Empress Eugenie, and of mourning for the untimely death of a brave youth, killed by an accident of a campaign in which

he should not have been allowed to take even the part of an observer, since he had no concern with it, and (properly enough) had not been received even as an amateur for active service. The death of the prince was a great blow to the supporters of the imperial cause in France; but apart from any political significance whatever, when his body was brought to England and placed in the mausoleum at Chislehurst the funeral was attended by a large concourse of eminent persons, including representatives of our royal family.

Her Majesty was at Balmoral when, on the 19th of June, the painful intelligence was communicated by telegram from Government House, Cape Town, to General Sir Henry Ponsonby for the information of her Majesty. The terrible message, which arrived at the castle at about half-past ten at night, greatly agitated the Queen, who could not at first realize the horror of the calamity. Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice were both so much distressed that day had almost begun to dawn before they sought repose. No official particulars had reached Cape Town from Natal; but it was known that the body of the prince had been found and buried with full military honours at Camp Itelezi, and that after being embalmed it would be conveyed to England. The message also stated that information had been sent to Lord Sydney, with a request begging him, if possible, to break the sad intelligence to the empress before the press telegrams arrived. "To die in such an awful, horrible way!" wrote the Queen in her journal. "Poor, poor dear empress! her only, only child—her all gone! . . . We sent for Janie Ely,¹ who was in the house when he was born, and was so devoted to him, and he was so good. Oh, it is too, too awful!"

¹ Lady Ely was in Paris with the Queen and Prince Albert on the occasion of her Majesty's visit, not long before the birth of the Prince Imperial.

There were many telegrams to write, and several were received from the members of the royal family who had heard the distressing news, which had been communicated to the House of Commons, where much sympathy was expressed. A message also arrived from Lord Sydney to say that early on the following morning (June 20th) he was going to Chislehurst to break the dreadful news to the empress. That morning her Majesty and Princess Beatrice with the suite were up early, preparing to leave Balmoral. The Queen, even while packing her boxes, could think of nothing but the startling message of the previous night. All the household was in consternation. After driving out and making some calls to say "good-bye" to her people and the tenants about Balmoral, her Majesty returned to luncheon, and heard by telegram that Lord Sydney had informed the empress of the calamity, which for some time appeared to her to be incredible, and the truth of which, when realized, left her overwhelmed with grief. "Always at Balmoral in May or June dreadful news or news of deaths of royal persons come," the Queen wrote in her journal; and again, "So strange that, as last time, our departure should be saddened, as, indeed, it has been every year, at least for three or four years, by the occurrence of deaths of great people or relations. We left Balmoral at half-past one, Janie Ely and Leila Erroll (full of feeling) going with Beatrice and me. It was a pity to leave when everything was in its greatest beauty. The lilacs just preparing to burst. Near Ballater there was a bush of white lilac already out."

Her Majesty, even amidst the sad impressions of the news she had received, marked the various aspects of the journey to Dundee; and in her journal recals the recollection that she had not been there since September 1844, when on the way to

Blair, "and Vicky, then not four years old, the only child with us," was carried through the crowd by old Renwick, the sergeant footman, who lived till 1871.

At Tay Bridge station there were great crowds, and flags were waving, and the provost was ready, "splendidly attired," to present an address. Ladies were in attendance to present bouquets to the Queen and the Princess Beatrice; and except for the sadness at their hearts because of the terrible message, the scene would have been lively and interesting. The occasion of this ceremony and festive demonstration was the royal inauguration of the Tay Bridge, that wonderful structure over which for its length of a mile and a half the train conveyed the royal travellers in about eight minutes. The bridge had been above seven years in building, and had from the first been a very difficult undertaking, some lives having been lost in laying the foundation. On the night of the 29th of December, 1879,—six months after her Majesty had made this journey along the vast structure, and noted the fine view that it commanded, a fearful gale wrecked the bridge, and a train containing eighty passengers, which was then crossing, was precipitated into the river that lay so far beneath.

The royal journey through Fife and near Loch Leven, Tillicoultry, Alloa, and to Stirling, where a vast enthusiastic crowd had assembled, was diversified by very charming alterations of scenery; but though these features were not unnoticed, the sad intelligence of the previous day occupied the thoughts of the travellers, and at those points of the journey where newspapers could be procured, fuller information was sought in the telegraphic reports of the occurrence, the first brief intimation of which lay so heavily upon their hearts.

In the early autumn Balmoral was again visited under

happier conditions, to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, whose home-coming was to be celebrated in the pleasant, simple, hearty way which had ever been characteristic of the domestic life of the royal household.

On the 5th of September her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice and Lady Ely, went in a landau and four, with postilions and outriders, to Ballater, whither General Sir Henry Ponsonby and General Gardiner had preceded them. There her Majesty and Princess Beatrice alighted on hearing the approaching train, from which "dear Arthur and Louise Margaret" stepped out, and were warmly embraced, the Queen handing to the young bride a nosegay of heather as a typical welcome to the north. The Royal Scots were out, there was a pretty arch composed of moss and flowers on the Balmoral bridge, and all the retainers, the tenants, and the ladies and gentlemen of the royal household, with Lord Chelmsford, Mr. Cross, and Christian Victor and Albert, sons of the Princess Christian, awaited the carriage that brought the genial Prince Arthur, who from his earliest childhood had been a great favourite with everybody there, and indeed everywhere else. After addressing a few words to those who so heartily welcomed him, the pipers went forward playing their best; the kilted Highlanders followed, and so a procession was formed, which went at a foot-pace to the castle, where three pretty little girls, daughters of Colonel Clarke, the Prince of Wales' equerry, who was staying at Birkhall, threw nosegays into the carriage, one being of *marguerites*, in compliment to the new princess. Then there was a halt, and the whole assembly joined in drinking the healths of the home-coming pair.

Three days afterwards there was a visit to the cairn which had been set up in honour of the wedding of his royal highness,

who with the princess (Duchess of Connaught) met the Queen and Princess Beatrice after breakfasting in the garden cottage, and walked to the cairn, her Majesty riding on her pony to the foot of the hill, and then walking to the top with the rest. All the household, the keepers and servants as well as the ladies and gentlemen, were there, and healths were given, and each of those present placed a stone on the cairn, which was inscribed:

ARTHUR, DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND STRATHEARNE,

MARRIED TO

PRINCESS LOUISE MARGARET OF PRUSSIA,

MARCH 13, 1879.

Her Majesty made a long stay at Balmoral that year, for she had a loving and generous desire to help to comfort her suffering friend the Empress Eugenie, whose health had been so much broken by bereavement and sorrow, and who had yielded to the urgent entreaty of the Queen to take up her abode for a short time at Abergeldie for the benefit of the pure air, and quiet, restful influences of the surrounding scenery. In her Majesty's simple pleasant record of a visit which they made together to the Glen Gelder Shiel, or *Ruidh na Bhan Righ* (the Queen's Shiel), we are told that the empress, who had driven over from Abergeldie, was pleased with the little shiel with its two small rooms and a little kitchen standing in a wild solitary spot looking up to Lochnagar, and that after a pleasant walk along the footpath above the Gelder, during which the empress talked much and most pleasantly about former times, they went back to the shiel to tea and a dish of excellent trout which Brown had caught and cooked in a primitive fashion with oatmeal, and which "the dear empress liked extremely and said would

be her dinner." Then there was the quiet return in the glorious autumn evening—"the hills pink and the sky so clear;" and so the friends parted, the empress driving back to Abergeldie with her lady, and, it may well be believed, with some of the heavy burden lifted from her heart by the sense of loving womanly sympathy, the influence of which was deepened by the natural freedom of the scene, and the Queen's homely, simple hospitality in the parlour of the Highland shiel.

At this date there was again much anxiety because of another turn of affairs in Afghanistan, and the alleged necessity for advancing on Cabul. We have seen that the ameer had agreed to receive a British resident, was to receive £60,000 a year in exchange for the "scientific" frontier which we were to occupy, and was to be assisted to defend himself against any foreign enemy; but almost before the ink with which the agreement had been written was dry, news came that the British envoy Sir Louis Cavagnari, and nearly all the officers of the mission, with the foreign escort, had been attacked and slain by a swarm of insurgents in Cabul, who came like a horde of wolves around the gate of the residency. A mere handful of men incompletely armed could do little to repulse the fierce and fanatic though cowardly assailants; but it might be possible to keep them in check till help arrived from the ameer. The little band of brave men made repeated rapid sallies, each time driving the insurgents before them and leaving many of them dead before again retiring within the protection of the gate; but it was evident that the ameer could not or would not send any aid, and it was believed he was acting treacherously. The mob pressed forward by sheer weight of numbers, forced a way in and closed upon the defenders, who were overwhelmed and slain amidst a heap of those who had fallen by their hands in a conflict by which

they had for some time held the building against an increasing multitude.

Orders were at once given to General Roberts to march upon Cabul, and the Ameer Yakoob Khan went whining to the British camp, declaring that he had been unable to prevent the revolt which had preceded the destruction of the embassy.

The occupation of Cabul was effected after some severe fighting, Sir D. Stewart holding Candahar; and Yakoob Khan, having abdicated, was sent to Peshawur. This resulted in a general insurrection in the country round Cabul. Sir Frederick Roberts had retired with his troops to cantonments at Sherpur there to await reinforcements, and had to repel the enemy who attacked him before any aid arrived. They suffered so severe a defeat that the leaders fled, and Shere Ali, the Afghan governor of Candahar, having remained loyal, was left there as independent ruler, while Sir D. Stewart marched with some of his troops to Cabul to assume the command there, having met and defeated an irregular Afghan force on his way. He then continued negotiations which made Abdul Rahman Khan ameer of Cabul. But the conflict was not yet over, and but for the splendid determination of General Sir Frederick Roberts and his forces, the situation would have been far more serious.

Ayub, a brother of Yakoob Khan, had taken up a position at Herat and marched against Candahar with a large force. General Burrowes advanced to oppose him, but with an insufficient number of men, as some of the native troops deserted to the enemy. The result was that in a battle fought at Maiwand the general could not hold his own, and fell back in confusion on Candahar, which was closely invested by Ayub. Reinforcements were delayed for want of the means of transport, and the crisis was becoming dangerous when Sir Frederick Roberts,

with his army of 10,000 men, made a forced march from Cabul to Candahar, a distance of about three hundred miles through a difficult and hostile country. The heat was tremendous, the march exhausting, and there was some fighting on the way; but in three weeks the journey was accomplished, and the men, immediately on their arrival, attacked the enemy and gained a brilliant victory. General Gough advanced to the aid of the relieving army, the authority of Abdul Rahman was confirmed, and the British forces were able to retire from Cabul. General Roberts was promoted to a baronetcy, and received the order of the Bath and several honours.

It may be noticed here that Abdul Rahman, the grandson of Dost Mahommed, has continued to hold the ameership, but that the "scientific frontier" remained rather an unsettled expression, and in March, 1885, in consequence of the annexation of Penjek, the question was again agitated with some asperity; but a commission for the delimitation of the frontier was appointed, and in June, 1886, the questions in dispute were partly decided. The labours of the commissioners were then resumed at St. Petersburg, with the result that in the Jubilee Year of our Sovereign Lady, they, in conjunction with their Russian colleagues, settled the boundary question. Quetta is now incorporated with India, and the railway system is extended towards Candahar.

The troubles in Afghanistan, and the recall of the British forces, had not been concluded on the meeting of parliament in 1880, nor was the settlement to be accomplished under the Conservative government, which had commanded a majority since 1874, but which was now to give place to a Liberal ministry brought into power by a general election.

Towards the end of 1879 there had been evidences that

the country desired a change, and the dissolution which was announced for the 2d of March, 1880, gave the opportunity for testing public opinion. At the opening of the session by her Majesty on the 5th of February, the royal speech stated that the troubles in Afghanistan made the immediate withdrawal of troops impossible, and that while strengthening the Indian frontier, it would be our policy to maintain friendly relations with the rulers and people of the country. The restoration of peace in South Africa was also referred to as a ground for hoping that steps might be taken for forming a federal union. A royal commission was to investigate the conditions of agricultural depression, and the distress in Ireland had necessitated extraordinary measures of relief which had been sanctioned by the executive in expectation of a parliamentary indemnity. A relief bill was rapidly passed granting loans to land-owners and sanitary authorities on liberal terms for improvement works, and relaxing the poor-law rules for outdoor relief; but the Irish Home Rule party declared that any such system of relief was inadequate, and insisted on reforms in the laws of land tenure as essential to the peace and prosperity of Ireland. The debate on the address turned chiefly on the demand for Home Rule, and it is to be noticed that the government and the opposition accused each other of having temporized with endeavours which were directed against the integrity of Imperial Union.

Shortly after the opening of parliament her Majesty accompanied by Princess Beatrice left Windsor and made a journey to Baden-Baden and Darmstadt. The visit was one devoted to tender memories and sacred sorrows, memories of the sister and of the daughter who had been so dear to the Queen. At Baden-Baden her Majesty saw the grave of the Princess of

Hohenlohe, and at Darmstadt attended the confirmation of the two elder granddaughters the Princesses Victoria and Elizabeth of Hesse, and visited the mausoleum at the Rosenhöhe, the tomb of the Princess Alice.

Her Majesty returned to England in April, and was present on the 24th of that month at the marriage of the Princess Frederica of Hanover, daughter of her Majesty's cousin the late King of Hanover, to Baron (Freiherr) von Pawell-Raminingen, who had been equerry to the late king. The ceremony took place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and beside the Queen several members of the royal family were present. It may be noted here, that his royal highness Ernest Augustus George, third Duke of Cumberland, the son of the late King of Hanover, had on the 21st of December, 1878, married the Princess Thyra of Denmark.

The Queen had left London for the Continent after the dissolution of parliament on the 24th of March, and returned to find that the general election which had begun on the 31st March afterwards ended in so unmistakable a majority for the Liberal party that a change of government was inevitable. On the resignation of Lord Beaconsfield her Majesty sent for Lord Granville, who intimated that he would be unable to form a ministry; nor could Lord Hartington undertake the duty, which the country evidently expected would be confided to Mr. Gladstone, in whose cabinet both noblemen were willing to hold office. He therefore received the commands of the sovereign, and was able to form a strong government, in which he again undertook the united offices of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer, with Sir W. Harcourt as Home Secretary, Earl Granville as Foreign Secretary, Mr. Childers as Secretary of War, the Marquis of Hartington as Secretary for

India, with the Marquis of Ripon as Governor-general. The Earl of Kimberley took the Colonial office, Mr. Chamberlain was President of the Board of Trade and Mr. Bright accepted office as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Lord Cowper was Lord Lieutenant, and Mr. Forster Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Though some measures of great social and industrial importance characterized the session of 1880, when the Liberal government was returned to power, the work of legislation was so constantly obstructed alternately by a small party of independent Conservatives and by the Irish members that the session had to be prolonged to a late period of the year, and it was seen to be necessary to introduce into parliament some rules of procedure which would have the effect of controlling or preventing tactics adopted simply for the purpose of thwarting the progress of public business.

The condition of Ireland was distressing because of the poverty and sufferings of a large number of the people, and was in many places rendered almost desperate by the unreasoning violence and illegal combinations of those whose outrages were not discouraged by the political leaders who claimed to represent the national sentiment in parliament. The ministry felt that while means must be taken to suppress riot and murder, it would be just and necessary to endeavour to bring in a comprehensive measure for dealing with the question of the tenure of Irish land and the means of equitable negotiation between landlord and tenant. The illness of Mr. Gladstone, which prevented his appearance in the house from the 30th of July to the 4th of September, caused much public anxiety; and at that time the condition of Ireland, the atrocious crimes which were committed there against life and property, and the monstrous language used by the representatives of organizations professing to

vindicate the claims of the Irish people, made it necessary in the opinion of the government to arrest or prosecute some of the leaders. At the same time a bill was being prepared for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of the tenantry and introducing a system by which it was hoped the land question might be satisfactorily settled.

In the early part of the year the members of the royal family had been busily engaged in the various duties which they are constantly called upon to fulfil. The Princess Louise had embarked for Canada on the 3d of February, her brothers the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh accompanying her to Liverpool. In April the Duke of Edinburgh was in Dublin, where he undertook to distribute supplies from the United States among the distressed population of Connaught. Prince Leopold fulfilled various engagements in opening schools and institutions, and later in the year attended to unveil the "memorial" which had been placed by the civic authorities of London to mark the spot previously occupied by Temple Bar, which had been removed. In May, in the midst of various engagements so numerous as to compel him to abandon a proposed visit to Australia, the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess, went to Portsmouth and made a visit of inspection to the frigate *Bacchante*, which had just returned from an eight months' cruise, and on board which their two sons were serving as midshipmen.

On the 14th of July their royal highnesses gave a garden party at Marlborough House, which was distinguished by the presence of the Queen, much to the satisfaction of her people, who recognized that her Majesty was now able to take occasional part in some of those recreations from which she had so long been absent. On the following day her Majesty went

to Windsor, there to hold a review in the park of 11,000 troops from Aldershot; and on the 30th inspected and decorated the colours of the 1st battalion of the 24th Regiment, which had been recovered in the struggle at Isandlana. Her Majesty, with the Princess Beatrice, was at Balmoral in the latter days of August, and early in September communicated with the government for the purpose of seeking means to diminish the number of railway accidents, a subject which had on former occasions seriously occupied the Queen's attention. At a little later date her Majesty was much interested in the restoration of the old abbey church at Sheppy, to the fund for which she contributed £500. The Princess Louise had temporarily returned from Canada in the autumn. Late in the year her Majesty was able to keep the Christmas holiday at Windsor in the usual quiet domestic fashion, and to mark its observance by those personal and kindly benefactions with which it has always been distinguished by the royal household.

The year 1881 commenced with much public uncertainty, for the political outlook disclosed many serious difficulties which required prompt and decided action. Parliament met on the 7th of January, and the Queen's speech, read by the lord-chancellor, indicated that there would be a long and arduous session. We were still in friendly relations with foreign powers, but some of the provisions of the Treaty of Berlin were uncompleted. Except at Candahar, where it was necessary for a time to retain our occupation till a native government could be established, the troops had been withdrawn from Afghanistan to our Indian territory. The war in Basutoland continued, notwithstanding the efforts of the Cape government, which could neither conciliate the natives nor make such overtures as would be accepted for the restoration of peace; while, at

the same time, a rising in the Transvaal had apparently made it necessary to take military measures to vindicate the royal authority and temporarily to set aside endeavours for securing to the European settlers the complete control over their affairs which the imperial government desired that they should possess. During the latter part of 1880, a perpetual conflict had to be maintained against insurgent natives, while the Boers of the Transvaal commenced attacks on our military stations in various places, and as the number of them who were accustomed to arms and were mostly well practised in shooting greatly exceeded the whole of our force, they succeeded in taking the places which had been occupied by our small bodies of troops, and in maintaining stubborn fights, in some of which many Europeans were killed and our garrisons were unable to hold their own. The Orange Free State did not join with the Boers of the Transvaal, but their president, Mr. John Brand, a son of Sir Cristofel Brand, formerly speaker of the Cape House of Assembly, exerted himself to bring about a satisfactory settlement between the Boers and the British authorities. This was finally effected, but not until Sir George Colley, governor of Natal, who had marched to the relief of Pretoria with a small expedition of 1500 men, which was afterwards somewhat reinforced by troops taken from England by Sir Evelyn Wood, had been defeated by the Boers in endeavouring to take up a position on Majuba Hill near Newcastle, overlooking the positions of the Boers at Laing's Nek. Sir George Colley was killed and his troops taken by surprise by the enemy, who stealthily advanced up the hill and surrounded them, pouring in such a deadly fire that they were obliged to beat a hasty retreat. It was a question whether a sufficient force should be sent to crush the Boers in a more equal contest; but Sir Evelyn Wood, who was then in

supreme command, had other instructions, and as conferences had already been arranged by the intervention of Mr. Brand, an armistice was agreed to, that Kruger the Boer, president, Joubert the commander, and our general, might meet and consider the answers which Kruger had now the opportunity of making to communications that had previously been sent to him by Sir George Colley. On the 22d of January, 1881, Mr. Gladstone announced in parliament that terms of agreement had been come to. The suzerainty of the Queen over the Transvaal was to be acknowledged. Complete self-government would be given to the Boers, control over foreign relations being reserved. By the end of the year Sir Evelyn Wood had completed his task in the Transvaal and Zululand, and afterwards Sir Henry Bulwer was made governor; but it may properly be noted here, that at a later date the Boers of the Transvaal were still dissatisfied, that they sent deputies to this country to negotiate with regard to their future government, and that in 1884 it was agreed to sign a convention by which our suzerainty was relinquished, with the reservation of a right of veto on treaties with foreign powers, except with the Free State and the northern Kafir tribes. By the terms of this convention the debt was to be reduced and the western frontier amended.

At the opening of parliament the condition of Ireland was the most urgent topic of the Queen's speech, as it demanded immediate and decided measures. The ordinary powers of the law had been put in force, but had not proved to be sufficient; and it was afterwards understood that proposals would be made for additional powers necessary for the vindication of order and of public law, and for the security of life, property, and personal liberty, though it was intimated that the work of removing grievances and improving legislation would not be relaxed.

A still further revision of the rules that should govern proceedings in parliament was found necessary for the repression of obstruction by needless or irrelevant debate, and regulations for this purpose were supported both by the government and the opposition. Shortly afterwards a measure, which like others of a similar kind was called a coercion bill, was brought in for the suppression of crimes and outrages, which had increased in number and atrocity, and for the protection of innocent people from murderous conspiracies and assaults. The enactment was a stringent one, especially in the power given for the arrest of suspected persons and the detention of prisoners before trial; but the condition of the country was such as to demand immediate, sharp, and decisive repression of crime, by provisions which were to be accompanied by equally prompt and remedial measures for removing the injustice and ameliorating the distressing conditions under which the Irish peasantry were suffering. Mr. Bright pointed out that this measure for the protection of person and property differed from former coercive measures, because it was accompanied by remedial legislation. A large and comprehensive land bill would be a durable monument of that parliament and that ministry.

On the 7th of April the proposed bill was introduced as one having for its main points, fair rents, free sale, and fixity of tenure. It provided for the establishment of a court to which tenants would have a right to appeal for a judicial rent to be affixed to their holdings for a term of fifteen years, during which there could be no eviction except for specific breach of specific covenants or for non-payment of the rent. Other provisions for the sale or perpetuation of tenant rights, the renewal and fixity of tenure, the sale of tenants' interest, compensation for improvements or for disturbance, and the fixing of rents by

agreement, were included in this comprehensive measure, by which the court referred to would act as a land commission, would regulate the proceedings of the local court, would have power to appoint assistant and provincial commissions, and would promote the sale of land to tenants who desired to purchase their holdings, to whom a large proportion of the purchase money would be lent on approved security at a low rate of interest. The numerous provisions of the bill included the grant of money by parliament to assist emigration. It was expected that the measure would meet with much opposition in the House of Lords, and that expectation was verified. Alterations were proposed which would have altered its whole character, and for a time it appeared as though a serious conflict between the two houses of the legislature was imminent; but though it was known that if the Conservative peers drove parliament to a dissolution, no Conservative government could be formed to stand, Mr. Gladstone made some important concessions and accepted such amendments as did not change the principle of the measure, which he was most anxious should be passed without delay when it was returned to the Upper House. This, however, was not effected till the 16th of August, and the royal assent was given to the bill on the 22d of that month.

In these discussions the eminent Conservative chief, the Earl of Beaconsfield, had no part. His place in the House of Peers knew him no more. The Marquis of Salisbury had succeeded him as leader of the Conservative party—nor would his colleagues and admirers in and out of parliament ever look upon him again in this world. In the last months of the previous year he had published his last novel, *Endymion*. In the early spring of 1881 he was known to be suffering from some asthmatic or bronchial disorder, which it was hoped would yield

to rest or medical care; but when it was known that his illness was serious, and that he lay at his house in Curzon Street, Mayfair, in a condition that was considered to be dangerous, much concern was manifested throughout the country and indeed throughout Europe, and by the Queen as well as by the humblest of her subjects frequent and anxious inquiries were made to ascertain what hopes of his recovery were held out by the frequent bulletins issued by his medical attendants. But such hopes as were entertained were not destined to be realized, and on the 21st of April Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, passed from the labours which he had so long sustained, and his voice was no more heard in the councils where his ability had been so conspicuous and his influence had been so powerful.

The loss of the statesman who had recently been at the head of affairs was very seriously felt by both parties in parliament, and by her Majesty, on whose behalf wreaths were placed upon the funeral bier by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, and Prince Leopold, who attended the last sad ceremony at Hughenden Church, whither the Queen and Princess Beatrice went ten days afterwards, before the tomb was closed, to place upon the coffin a wreath and cross of white camellias and other flowers.

In the following year a monument to Lord Beaconsfield was erected in the church, "by his grateful and affectionate Sovereign and friend, VICTORIA R. I.," with the additional inscription:

"Kings love him that speaketh right."

Proverbs xvi. 13.

Those earlier months of the year had been marked by other events of great interest to the Queen. On the 27th of February

her Majesty's eldest grandson, Prince Frederick William Victor Albert, son of the Crown-prince and Princess of Germany, was married at Berlin to Princess Augusta Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, granddaughter of her Majesty's sister, Princess Hohenlohe, and niece to Prince Christian. At the wedding the Queen was represented by the Prince of Wales.

Only a fortnight afterwards (on the 13th of March) a horrible message came from St. Petersburg, saying that the Emperor Alexander of Russia had been assassinated in the streets of the city. As he and his brother were being driven in a closed carriage from the Winter Palace a bomb was thrown which exploded just behind the carriage, severely injuring the horses and wounding one of the escort as well as some of the bystanders. The carriage stopped, and the emperor, alighting, turned to look at the injured persons, when another missile, thrown by a young man, exploded at his feet. As the smoke cleared away he was seen lying in a pool of blood shockingly mutilated and quite insensible; two hours afterwards he was dead. He had been long threatened with death by the hands of assassins, and the threat had now been fulfilled; a horrible crime had been committed to no appreciable end, and here, as in other countries, it had the effect of arousing a feeling of detestation against those who are none the less murderers because they profess to perpetrate crimes in the name of that freedom which their declarations show them to be incapable of appreciating.

At a later date, on the 2d of July, Mr. Garfield, President of the United States, was shot at Washington by an assassin named Guiteau, and after lingering in extreme pain and exhaustion, borne with heroic fortitude, died on the 19th of September. During his suffering much sympathy and anxiety

was manifested by her Majesty and by the people of this country; and the general sorrow for his death and for the loss sustained by the American nation was signified by our court going into mourning; while among the floral tributes of respect and regard which lay upon the funeral bier was a large and beautiful wreath of white roses, Smilax, and Stephanotis, with a card inscribed, "Queen Victoria, to the memory of the late President Garfield: an expression of her sorrow and sympathy with Mrs. Garfield and the American nation." Her Majesty had also sent a tender womanly message to the lady who had suffered such an agonizing experience in watching the lingering to death of her beloved husband, a message short but full of gentle significance: "Words cannot express the deep sympathy I feel with you at this terrible moment. May God support you as He alone can!"

Among those events of the time which had to be included in its sadder records was the death of Dean Stanley: he had for many years enjoyed the respect and regard of the royal family, and his bereavement had been a deep sorrow to her Majesty, who long mourned the loss of Lady Augusta Stanley, her former friend and companion.

The year had been an eventful one, and that which followed promised, at its opening, to bring with it occurrences of deep personal interest to our Sovereign Lady. In the early days of January her Majesty was at Osborne, where she was much engaged in receiving, and in numerous cases replying to, letters and messages from America, evoked by her kindly sympathy for the widowed Mrs. Garfield and for the American people.

On the 15th of the month the announcement that a daughter had been born to the Duke and Duchess of Connaught was received with great pleasure, and preparations had to be made for the baptism of the infant princess, which took place at

Windsor Castle on the 11th of March, the Queen being present as sponsor and giving the names Margaret Victoria Augusta Charlotte Norah.

Her Majesty, who had held a drawing-room at Buckingham Palace on the 1st of March, returned to Windsor on the following day; and, accompanied by the Princess Beatrice, had entered her carriage at the railway-station to drive to the castle, when a man, who stood at a short distance, deliberately levelled a revolver and fired at the Queen. The princess saw him point the weapon, but, though greatly alarmed on account of the danger to her mother, sat quite still. The Queen, who was not aware of the attempt till the explosion was heard, was more alarmed for her daughter than for herself, but both exhibited remarkable calm self-possession. The place in which the bullet was found seemed to indicate that it had passed between them. The criminal, whose attempt had been witnessed by a group of spectators assembled at the station, was at once secured, and indeed was immediately attacked by an Eton boy, who rushed upon him and belaboured him over the head with an umbrella. When interrogated he said his name was Roderick Maclean, and declared that he had only intended to intimidate her Majesty. On being brought to trial he was found to be half-demented, and accordingly was sentenced to be confined during her Majesty's pleasure. The Queen, after inquiring whether any one was hurt, maintained her composure during the drive homeward; but she was aware that a great danger had been escaped, and on reaching her apartments at the castle, expressed her sincere gratitude for the preservation of herself, the princess, and those who attended them, and her admiration for the courage and self-control which had been displayed by the Princess Beatrice.

Perhaps her Majesty was scarcely prepared for the universal outburst of congratulation and thanksgiving which followed the assurance of her safety, not only here and in the colonies, but in foreign countries all over the world. In a few hours telegrams and messages poured in from distant parts of the kingdom, and from the rulers and public bodies of the continent of Europe, and were followed by equally warm expressions of thankful regard and esteem from India, Canada, and Australia. Throughout this country at every public assembly for business or pleasure those who were present manifested their gratitude and their loyalty, and in parliament the leading speakers gave expression to the intensity of public sentiment, which united profound thankfulness for her Majesty's preservation with admiration for the calm courage which distinguished our Sovereign Lady and her daughter.

In every assembly for public worship there were thanksgivings for her Majesty's safety, and in reply to the heart-felt expressions of affection and loyalty which were almost hourly conveyed to her the Queen wrote a letter addressed to her people, thanking them for their loving sympathy, and assuring them of her constant and heart-felt regard.

Early in the year her Majesty had been recommended by her medical advisers to spend a few days at Mentone for the benefit of her health, and on the 14th of March the journey was made to Cherbourg in the royal yacht, and thence continued to Mentone by way of Paris. The Queen, who travelled as the Countess of Balmoral, was accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and at Mentone was met by Prince Leopold, who in June, 1881, had taken his seat in the House of Lords with the title of the Duke of Albany, and whose marriage with the Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont—whom the prince had met in 1881, and

who with her father had made an informal visit to Windsor in February and had returned to Alrosen to prepare for the wedding—was to be celebrated in April.

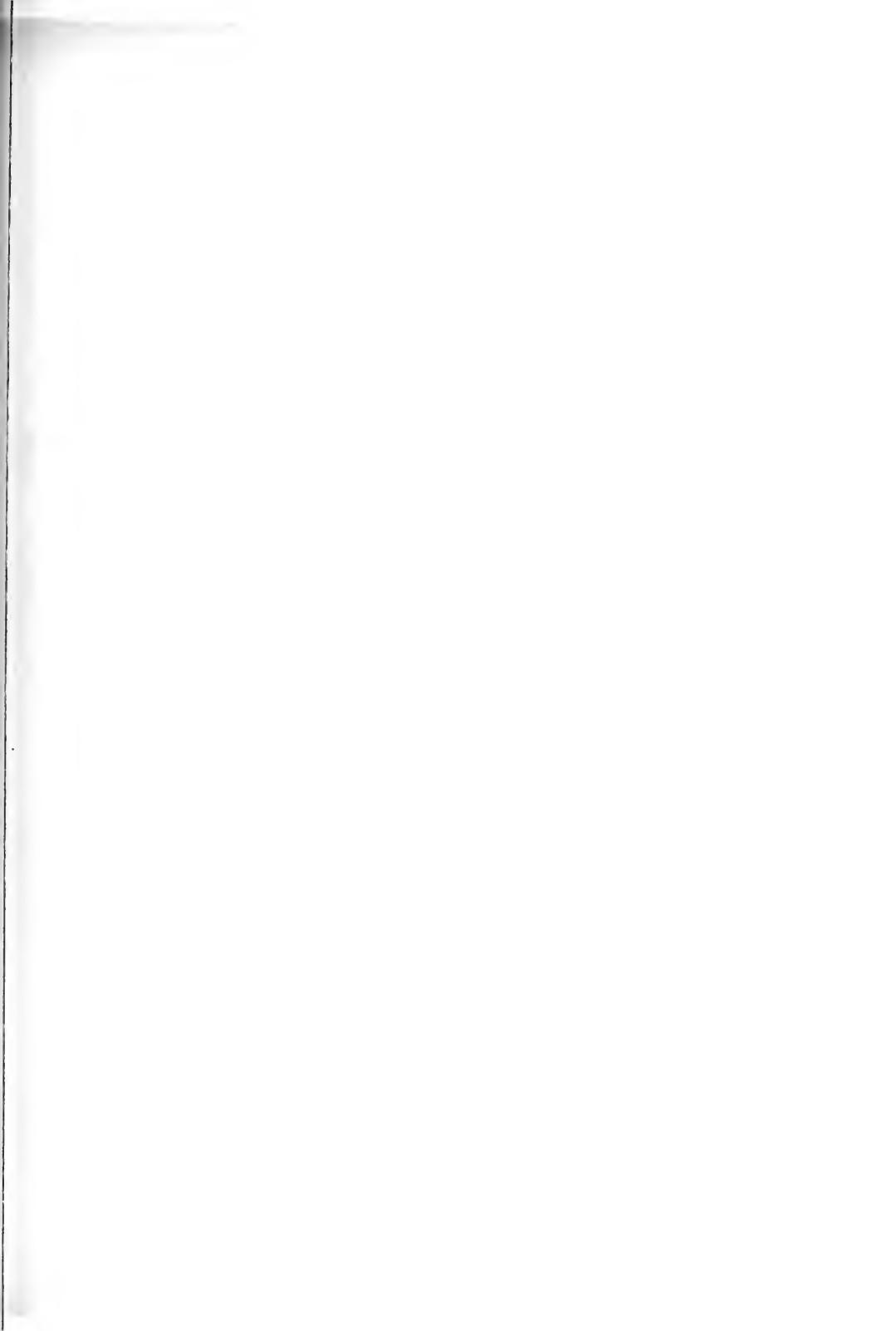
The health of Prince Leopold was so precarious that it caused much anxiety to the royal family, and it was hoped that a short stay at Mentone would be beneficial to him as well as to her Majesty, who appeared thoroughly to enjoy the brief holiday. Very excellent arrangements had been made for the comfort and repose of the royal visitors at the villa at which they took up their abode, situated on the slope of the mountain amidst orange groves and commanding delightful views of sea and land. The preparations made for the reception of her Majesty were in accordance with her desire to make her visit a private one. The roads leading to the villa had been improved, a small new railway-station had been constructed for the royal use, and the telegraph wire was carried to the house that immediate communication might be made with London. Some very beautiful private gardens, formed of a succession of terraces on the mountain side, and affording charming and varied prospects, were placed at the disposal of the Queen.

On the 12th of April her Majesty with the prince and princess returned, and preparations were made for the marriage, which was celebrated at Windsor. The bride, who was sister to the Queen of the Netherlands and to the Princess William of Wurtemberg, arrived with her parents on the 25th, and the King and Queen of the Netherlands followed on the 26th. The marriage, which was one of mutual affection, was considered to be in every respect a happy event, for the bride, the daughter of the reigning Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont, belonged to an old Protestant family connected with some of the royal houses of Europe. Prince Leopold, as we have seen, had made a very

deep and favourable impression upon public opinion. Educated at home and at Oxford, he had developed faculties which were afterwards ripened by observation, and he was largely interested in promoting a love of art and letters among the people. Even the weakness of constitution from which he suffered seemed to have added refinement, and to have given something of sympathetic gentleness to his disposition, and his speeches on several public occasions, when he advocated the claims of education or of benevolence, were remarkably effective, and indicated a depth of thought and perception which greatly impressed those who heard him.

The journey of the Princess Helen of Waldeck to England was marked with many genuine signs of welcome, and on her arrival at Queenborough she was able to say in prettily accented English, in answer to an address from the local representatives: "Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen—I thank you most sincerely for the hearty welcome you have given me to my new home." Nor was the reception at Windsor, where she was received with tokens of affection, likely to diminish that home-like sentiment. A large number of royal and illustrious personages assembled there to attend the wedding, which was distinguished for the beauty of the dresses and jewels worn on the occasion, and for the numerous valuable presents made to the bride, whose new home was to be at the now historical dwelling at Claremont.

On the 8th of May her Majesty again journeyed eastward, appearing in state among the industrial classes of the London population for the purpose of giving her royal sanction and approbation to the opening of Epping Forest in Essex as a great health resort for the people. For many years encroachments had been made on the forest land till hundreds of acres







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LEOPOLD GEORGE VICTOR
DUKE OF ALBANY

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had been absorbed by private individuals, who had thus accumulated estates, and in many instances “common rights” having been acquired by nominal compensation, portions of such lands had been sold for residential or other purposes. The corporation of the City of London having taken up the matter in the public interest, succeeded, after the expenditure of a large sum of money, in reclaiming the larger proportion of these lands, and as crown rights could still be asserted and had not been compromised by the illicit absorption of the Forest, some hundreds of acres which had not been built upon were acquired for the public benefit.

The Duke of Connaught had been appointed Ranger of the Royal Forest of Epping and Hainault, and her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess Beatrice and attended by a suite and a proper escort, was received by the lord-mayor and sheriffs, the Duke of Connaught, and members of the corporation of London. After driving to High Beech, an elevated and central spot commanding very fine and extensive views of the Forest and the surrounding country, her Majesty received an address, to which a gracious reply was returned, and then, alighting from her carriage, planted a small oak tree in commemoration of her having declared the Forest to be thenceforth freely open for the use and recreation of her people; the civic authorities being the appointed conservators for the maintenance of public rights and the preservation and improvement of the ancient and extensive domain of woodland, glade, and thicket, which from time immemorial had been a holiday resort for the inhabitants of London, and the towns and villages of that part of the country. A great pavilion had been raised on the hill at High Beech, where a large number of distinguished and official personages afterwards partook of luncheon; but her Majesty

remained only for a short time in the apartment prepared for the reception of the royal party, as a long return journey had to be made to London and thence to Windsor.

The ceremony had been an important one, as it had marked an occasion of very great popular interest, and had vindicated alike the royal and the public privilege. The manifestations of loyalty had been such as to prove that the hearts of the population went out in affectionate welcome to their Queen; but a shadow of gloom had partly dimmed the brightness and disturbed the sense of pleasure. A strong and deep feeling of horror and indignation had been aroused throughout the country and in every civilized community in the world by intelligence of a dastardly and hideous crime perpetrated in Dublin, where Lord Frederick Cavendish, one of the best and noblest of men, having accepted the office of Irish secretary—on the resignation of Mr. Forster—had only been a few hours in the capital when he was foully murdered by armed assassins in Phoenix Park. Mr. Burke, the permanent under-secretary, who was in his company, also fell a victim to the miscreants, who had deliberately planned the deed at the instigation, it was believed, of so-called Irish-American conspirators.

The crime, which they alleged had been instigated by the Irish-Americans and committed by a secret society, was condemned by the leaders of the "Land League," the name of which had been changed to the "National League." They could not, of course, obliterate the knowledge that they had in other respects been acting in concert with the Irish-American party in the United States, and had repeatedly received large contributions from them for maintaining the League, and supporting some of its representatives in Parliament; but they denounced the perpetrators of the murders in Phoenix Park in a

manifesto addressed to the Irish people, declaring that no act had ever been perpetrated in that country during the exciting struggles for social and political rights of the past fifty years that had so stained the name of hospitable Ireland, as that cowardly and unprovoked assassination of a friendly stranger, and that until the murderers of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke were brought to justice that stain would sully their country's name.

As a matter of fact, the victim of this horrible crime had gone on a mission of conciliation. Mr. Forster had most unwillingly demanded the application of measures for repressing crimes of violence against person and property, and for suppressing the Land League; and when he found that the leaders who had been arrested were released from prison and that the operation of the law was relaxed, he had felt that he could not consistently remain in office, and as his health was much impaired by the arduous duties he had fulfilled and the constant grief that he endured because of the necessity for putting the law in force, he was not sorry to be relieved from a burden which had become insupportable, even without taking into consideration the constant risk of assassination, which he incurred without a moment's apparent fear, or hesitation to carry out his duty in Ireland.

That his successor should be foully murdered only a few hours after his entering upon his pacific mission was a startling confirmation of Mr. Forster's declarations; and it was more than hinted that the slinking scoundrels who under the name of "Invincibles" or other appellations, formed secret societies, the members of which were bound by oath to obey their leaders and act as assassins whenever anybody was to be murdered—were determined if possible to prevent conciliatory measures, the oper-

ation of which would deprive them of occupation. At all events it was found necessary even by the leaders of the agitation to repudiate any association with such crimes as were now perpetrated by those who were evidently not the friends but the enemies of Ireland, and were by their atrocities beyond the pale of humanity.

Within five days after the assassination of Lord Frederick Cavendish a stringent "Prevention of Crimes" Bill, directed chiefly against the secret societies, was passed after strenuous obstruction from the Irish party, and Mr. G. O. Trevelyan accepted the appointment of chief secretary for Ireland. At the same time ameliorative measures were pushed forward, though, as it proved, they were neither supported nor accepted by the representatives of the national party as even an approximate settlement of the conditions which were the alleged causes of distress and of disregard for the laws designed to secure protection of life and property.

Not only in relation to Ireland was the government embarrassed by the obstruction of the Irish party, but almost all legislation was delayed or frustrated by the persistent opposition by which nearly every measure was confronted. At the same time there had arisen in Egypt a condition of affairs so threatening to the interests and even to the personal security of Europeans residing in that country, and particularly in Cairo and Alexandria, that our intervention became necessary, either in conjunction with the great powers, or (in default of their co-operation) on our own responsibility, for the protection of the regular government against a knot of military conspirators, who, for their own ends, were fomenting a revolt in the army and inciting the fanatical element among the population against the Khedive Tewfik, son of the recently deposed Ismail Pasha.

The military revolts which were commenced during the later days of the khedivate of Ismail Pasha, and continued when his son was appointed viceroy in his stead, were headed by three Arab colonels, Arabi Bey Ahmed, Ali Bey Femy, and Abdullah Bey, who professed to resent the favouritism which they alleged had been shown to Circassian and Turkish officers, and the undue influence exercised by European advisers of the Egyptian government, who held the chief offices in the civil service.

An account of the occurrences which led to the intervention of the British government for the purpose of protecting Europeans in Egypt and suppressing the rebellion, which would have assumed the form of a military dictatorship under Arabi Bey, would not come within the scope of this narrative. The story of our relations to the government and administration of Egypt and of their results, ending with the war against the pretensions of the Mahdi in the Soudan, and the extraordinary campaign for the relief of General Gordon at Khartûm, has been told by the writer of these pages in a work expressly designed to recount that important episode in the history of the British Empire.¹

The military mutiny became sufficiently powerful to take the form of rebellion, of which Arabi was the recognized leader, supported not only by a considerable proportion of the troops, but by numbers of those native officials who had been superseded because of their misgovernment, or who desired to obtain official employment. Arabi had already assumed a military dictatorship when, in 1882, he claimed that the army represented the people, that Egypt was sick of the European control, and

¹ *The War in Egypt and the Soudan; an Episode in the History of the British Empire.* By Thomas Archer, F.R.Hist. Soc. Blackie & Son, London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

that Europeans should be replaced by Egyptians. The British and French governments, representing the European powers at Cairo, assured the khedive of their united aid in maintaining the *régime* established in Egypt when he was placed on the throne; but the military party had already succeeded in reinstating the chamber of notables, which had previously been superseded, and the khedive was so much afraid, that he allowed the chamber to elect the administration in which Arabi Bey was made minister of war. Promises were given that Europeans should be protected, but it was soon evident that if the rebellion grew to larger dimensions there would be no safety for them in Cairo, Alexandria, or other large towns.

The khedive became a cipher after having endeavoured to propitiate Arabi by elevating him to the rank of pasha, promoting his principal officers, and confirming certain privileges of persons who had reason to suppose that they would be deprived of them. The French and English financial advisers pointed out that the proposals of the chambers would result in a serious deficit in the treasury, and the French representative resigned office. The foreign consuls were told that the safety of Europeans would be guaranteed, but when it was known that France and England had ordered two ironclads to Alexandria, it was added that the guarantee would only hold good in the event of the intervention of the Porte alone. This seemed to point to some connivance of the sultan with the rebellion.

It was thought necessary to make a display of intervention by the presence of a combined English and French fleet at Alexandria; the authority of the khedive was insufficient to maintain a ministry of his own nomination, and his life was threatened. The allied fleet arrived, but awaited orders from their governments before proceeding to hostilities against the

mutineers. Arabi had resigned with other ministers on the pretext that they could not countenance foreign intervention. At Cairo the principal people asked for the reinstatement of Arabi, to prevent an insurrection and the massacre of the European residents. At Alexandria the foreign population was in imminent danger. Arabi had begun to construct fortresses in spite of the commands of the khedive, the remonstrances of Admiral Beauchamp Seymour, who had command of the British fleet, and the rather perfunctory reproofs of a Turkish commissioner, who was suspected of favouring the rebellion in the interests of the sultan. A serious riot broke out in Alexandria: the British consul was dragged out of his carriage and severely injured, the Greek consul was attacked, and a number of French and British subjects were killed; many of the Europeans at Cairo fled from the city; Arabi continued to complete batteries and fortifications at Alexandria, while returning evasive replies to the remonstrances of the khedive and the Turkish commissioner. On the 7th of July (1882) Admiral Seymour threatened that if these works were continued he would open fire upon them, and three days later an ultimatum was issued, demanding their surrender to the British. Most of the Europeans had embarked on board vessels provided for their escape; the commander of the French fleet had received orders to take no part in the bombardment that was now inevitable, and therefore the French ironclads retired to Port Said; and on the 11th of July our fleet, consisting of eight ironclads and five gunboats, opened fire upon the forts. Under the pretence of signalling by a flag of truce Arabi withdrew his forces, and then commenced an insurrection which it was believed he had previously encouraged and prepared. The European quarter was ransacked, houses demolished, hundreds of the remaining Europeans were mas-

sacred, and, finally, the city was fired in the central square, the conflagration extending to the suburbs and continuing for three days. Our admiral had no troops to land, nor could he properly have occupied the city without the direct orders of the khedive, with whom we were not at war, but whose authority we were professing to support. He was at his palace four miles from the city, and was taken back to Alexandria under the protection of a guard of marines. Lord Charles Beresford then landed with a small force of blue-jackets and marines, who were formed into a kind of police, and succeeded in suppressing the insurrection after shooting several of the murderers and incendiaries, and placing others under arrest in the prisons.

Lord Dufferin, who had gone to Constantinople as our plenipotentiary, held repeated conferences with the representatives of other European powers, and with the sultan, who talked of occupying Egypt with a Turkish army. Nobody quite trusted the Turkish government and its repeated evasions and delays, but it was at last decided, with the consent of all the powers, that France and England should, in the name of Europe, take the responsibility of occupying the Suez Canal by a protecting force, to prevent it from being obstructed or seized upon by the insurgents, who were in great numbers with Arabi's army at Kafr Dowar, not far from Alexandria. As a matter of fact we had already taken steps to put an end to the rebellion. Before the final conference between Lord Dufferin and the sultan some of our troops had arrived in Egypt, and a reconnaissance was being pushed forward toward Arabi's position. The movements of our contingents were quick and decisive: a telegraph cable was laid between Alexandria and Port Said, Sir Garnet Wolseley arrived to take the chief command, troopships sailed to Aboukir, and—before the Egyptians knew what was meant

—sailed eastward and occupied Port Said. The engagements were swift skirmishes, by which Arabi and his rebel army were driven further and further towards Cairo, until he formed an intrenched and fortified camp at Tel-el-Kebir. There, on the night of the 12th of September, our forces made a rapid and brilliantly successful attack on his position and utterly defeated him, putting his whole army to the rout. Our losses were 54 killed, of whom 11 were officers, and 342 wounded, including 22 officers. The loss of the Egyptians was about 1000, while 3000 surrendered and about 15,000 threw away their arms and fled, dispersing over the country. The next day our Indian contingent had occupied Zagazig; and the cavalry and mounted infantry by a forced march of thirty miles under a blazing sun reached Cairo on the evening of the 14th, when Arabi was captured and the city was preserved from disaster and probably from destruction. On the following day Sir Garnet Wolseley, with his head-quarters, detachment of Guards, Highlanders, and marines, entered Cairo, and was received with expressions of good-will by the populace, who seemed ready to abandon Arabi, though a few of the more determined rebels gathered into small knots and made insulting remarks and gestures. It was evident that the revolt had collapsed, and that the population of the city was not sorry to be protected while order was restored. A complete revulsion of feeling followed. The Khedive Tewfik became immensely popular; the towns in the provinces which had declared for Arabi promptly surrendered. Steps were taken to bring to trial the murderous rebels at Alexandria as well as the mutinous colonels, and eventually Arabi and some of his fellow-prisoners—the chiefs of the rebellion—were, by British intervention, saved from the capital sentence which would have followed their conviction.

as ordinary criminals, and were sentenced to banishment, and exiled to Ceylon.

The British government made it known that the victorious troops would be withdrawn after the suppression of the rebellion, that only sufficient men would remain to protect the inhabitants against attempts to revive it, and that the British representatives, with the Earl of Dufferin as plenipotentiary, would assist the Egyptian government to reform the entire administration of the country and to establish more just and equal laws.

The Duke of Connaught went with the expedition to Egypt in command of the first battalion of Scots Guards, and took part in the active service of the campaign with much distinction. It was understood that the Prince of Wales had a great desire to accompany his brother, but her Majesty could not give her consent to the proposal. It was not thought advisable that the heir to the throne should join the forces in Egypt and incur the inevitable dangers of the campaign, unless for more urgent reasons than could be said to exist for his presence with the expedition, especially as he was so constantly required to fulfil important engagements, or to inaugurate public movements, to which only her Majesty or the heir apparent could give the effect secured by royal sanction. As his royal highness found that the Queen could not give her approval to his absence from England, he contented himself with accompanying the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Connaught to see his brother embark on board the *Orient* on the 20th of July, and probably to express his farewells and regrets in the usual brief but hearty fashion: "Good-bye, old fellow, I wish I could come with you; but you'll be sure to write, you know, and you'll tell us all about it when you come back." The duke had already said farewell to her Majesty, to whom the expedition was causing no little

anxiety. On the 5th of August the Queen's interest was manifested by inspecting the troops who had embarked on board the *Catalonia*. Her Majesty visited the ship as it lay off Cowes and took leave of Sir E. Hamley, Sir Evelyn Wood, and other officers in command. On the 10th five ships, leaving Southampton Water with troops on board, went on their outward voyage watched by the Queen, who was on board the royal yacht, and on the 19th our Sovereign Lady was again at sea to meet the *Malabar* conveying more troops, who had the honour of being accompanied by the royal yacht to the Warner Light.

Her Majesty had, of course, been staying at Osborne, where the Zulu king, Cetewayo, had been admitted to pay a morning call, and, notwithstanding his clumsy appearance, caused by his enormous bulk and ill-fitting European attire, he appears to have behaved with some dignity and with an evident endeavour to express his loyalty and honesty to the Queen, whom he regarded as his suzerain. He was afterwards taken on a visit to Windsor Castle, and soon afterwards was returned to his own country with restored authority, under certain conditions which he scarcely lived long enough to comprehend or fully to observe.

On the 1st of September her Majesty left Osborne for Balmoral accompanied by Princess Beatrice and the Duchess of Connaught. There, on Monday the 11th of September, her Majesty received a telegram from Sir John M'Neill, whose name has been eminently associated with the campaign in Egypt and the Soudan and the defence of Suakim. The message was in cipher, marked "very secret," and saying that it was "determined to attack the enemy with a very large force on the following Wednesday." It was an anxious time for the mother, wife, and sister who awaited the news that yet must be delayed; and when, on the following day, they drove to the Glen Gelder Shiel,

where they took tea, the Queen's thoughts may have reverted to the last occasion on which she sat there with a sorrowing guest—the ex-Empress Eugenie, who was now far away, having gone to the Cape that she might travel thence to the spot where her son had been killed in the South African desert.

The anxiety of the three royal ladies was painful. The Queen records: "We walked on the road back, and came home at twenty minutes past seven. How anxious we felt I need not say; but we tried not to give way. Only the ladies dined with us. I prayed earnestly for my darling child, and longed for the morrow to arrive. Read Körner's beautiful '*Gebet vor der Schlacht*'; '*Vater, ich rufe Dich*' (Prayer before the Battle; Father, I call on Thee). My beloved husband used to sing it often. My thoughts were entirely fixed on Egypt and the coming battle. My nerves were strained to such a pitch by the intensity of my anxiety and suspense that they seemed to feel as though they were all alive." The next morning was dull and chill, but her Majesty was up betimes for her short morning walk before breakfasting in the cottage. There was a Reuter's telegram that the army had marched out on the previous night; the feelings of the royal party were at tension when they walked out to see the arch which had been erected to welcome the home-coming of the Duke and Duchess of Albany, who were expected to be at Ballater in the afternoon; but the Queen had to go back to the cottage to her morning's work of reading despatches, writing letters and memoranda, and signing papers. There was another telegram from Reuter that the battle was going on, and that the enemy had been routed with much loss at Tel-el-Kebir. It is easy to understand the agitation of the three loving hearts waiting for the one item of news which had not yet arrived. It came presently in seven words from Sir

John M'Neill: "A great victory; Duke safe and well;" and the mother with unbounded joy and gratitude at once "sent all to Louischen," to the wife who waited for the only word that would bring her gladness. A longer telegram from Sir Garnet Wolseley followed. It came from Ismailia, and had been sent from Tel-el-Kebir. "Attacked Arabi's position at five this morning. His strongly-intrenched position was most bravely and gallantly stormed by the guards and line, while cavalry and horse artillery worked round their left flank. At seven o'clock I was in complete possession of his whole camp. Many railway trucks with quantities of supplies fallen into our hands. Enemy completely routed, and his loss has been very heavy; also regret to say we have suffered severely. Duke of Connaught is well, and behaved admirably, leading his brigade to the attack."

There was much joy and thanksgiving at Balmoral, though the Queen felt grieved to hear of the losses we had sustained, which, however, proved not to be so serious as first reported. Telegrams continued to come in and many had to be sent, and after luncheon the Queen with Princess Beatrice and Lady Southampton drove to Ballater, where the Prince and Princess Leopold arrived almost immediately. A guard of honour of the Seaforth Highlanders, of which the prince was colonel, was there, and many people were out as the home-comers drove off in the open carriage with the Queen and Princess Beatrice, and at the bridge the Duchess of Connaught and the Hon. Horatia Stopford were waiting in a carriage. Beyond the bridge all the ladies and gentlemen of the suite and the royal household, and the tenants from all the estates, welcomed the prince and princess. The pipers led the way playing "Highland Laddie" as the kilted men marched surrounding the carriage. Just beyond the arch healths were given accompanied by hearty

cheers; and, at the request of the Queen, Prince Leopold proposed "The Victorious Army in Egypt." After this Dr. Profeit, the manager of the estate at Balmoral, proposed "The Duchess of Connaught, and at Brown's suggestion he also proposed 'The Little Princess.' The sweet little one had witnessed the procession in Chapman's (her nurse's) arms, with her other attendants, and was only a little way off when her health was drunk." There were more telegrams, further particulars of news, a long letter from the Duke of Connaught to his wife, and by the direction of the Queen preparations were made for lighting a bonfire on the top of Craig Gowan, where there had been one in 1856 to celebrate the fall of Sebastopol. The royal party dined alone, and at nine o'clock at night Princess Beatrice, the Duchess of Connaught, Lady Southampton, and the gentlemen of the suite, with several of the servants, and the pipers playing, walked up to the top in the dark,—which her Majesty thought rather venturesome,—while the Queen, Prince Leopold—who was yet perhaps too weak in health for such an excursion—and the Duchess of Albany watched the lighting of the fire and the group that stood around it, and listened to the cheering and the piping. On their return the Queen joined Princess Beatrice, the Duchess of Connaught, and Lady Southampton, who were having supper in the duchess's room. "Endless telegrams!" her Majesty writes at the close of the account in her journal. "What a day of gratitude and joy! but mingled with sorrow and anxiety for the many mourners, and the wounded and dying."

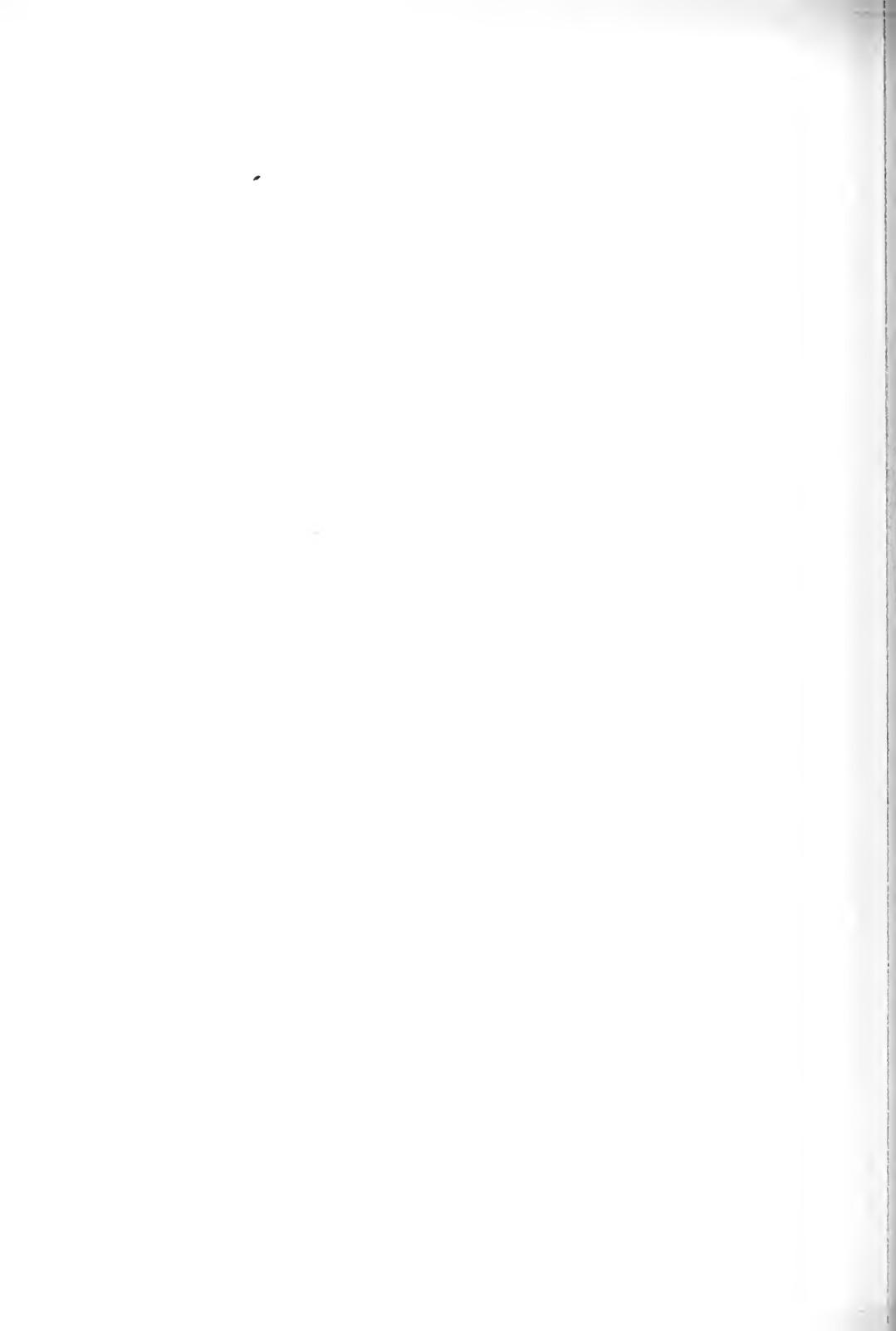
On the return of the troops from Cairo pensions of £2000 a year each were voted to Sir Garnet Wolseley and Sir Beauchamp Seymour, who were respectively raised to the peerage with the titles of Viscount Wolseley and Lord Alcester.

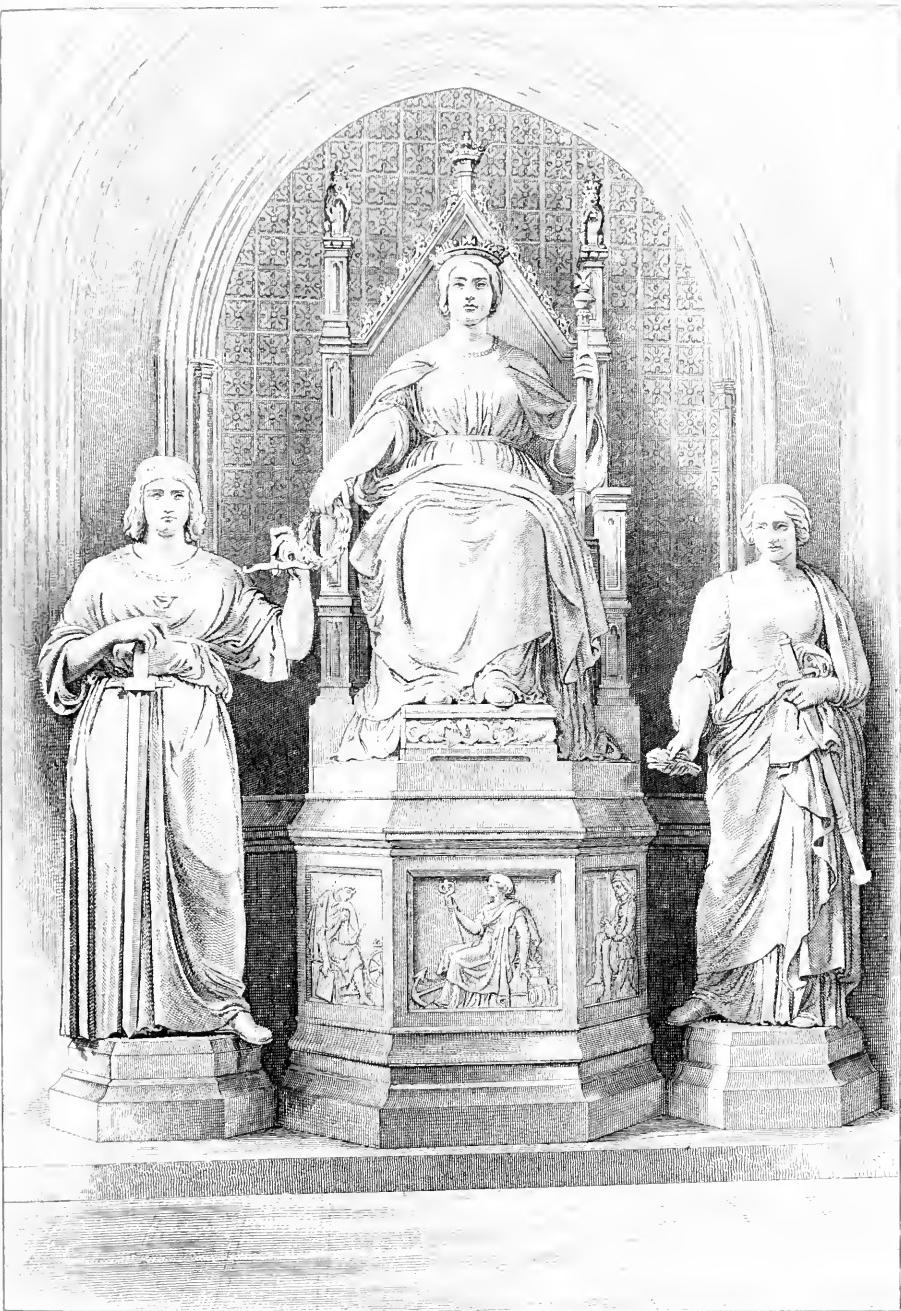
On the 13th of November the Empress of Germany arrived at Windsor on a visit to her Majesty, and accompanied the Duke and Duchess of Connaught to the Victoria Railway Station to witness the return of the Grenadier and Scots Guards. The campaign in Egypt was apparently over, but public attention was still fixed on the probable necessity, not only for continuing the occupation of Cairo and some parts of the country for the purpose of protecting both natives and Europeans until the construction of a constitutional government and a reform of the laws, but also for taking further measures to check the advance of the Mahdi—the false prophet who was already threatening the provinces of the Soudan. He had gathered round him a large and increasing horde of fanatical and savage tribes and the followers of those slave-dealing chiefs who foresaw—in the rise of a powerful rebellion in the distant Nile provinces—the probable revival of that nefarious traffic which Sir Samuel Baker and afterwards General Gordon had used arduous efforts to suppress, while they held the position of governors of the Soudan provinces to which they were respectively appointed by the Khedive Ismail and his successor.

In the latter days of November the Queen held a review, in St. James's Park, of some 8000 troops of all arms who had recently returned from Egypt, and after parading before her Majesty they marched away through Piccadilly and Pall Mall, where they were very enthusiastically received by large crowds of people. Three days later her Majesty, who had returned to Windsor, conferred special Egyptian medals on 400 officers and men representing various branches of the service, and on the 25th held an investiture for conferring orders for distinguished service. On the 30th her Majesty and Princess Beatrice visited the sick and wounded men in Netley Hospital.

Till nearly the close of the year the Queen continued to participate in those public events which demanded her personal attention. The opening of the new Royal Courts of Justice, the building for which, near the former site of Temple Bar, had then been completed, was the latest occasion before the Christmas celebrations on which her Majesty appeared in a public ceremonial. It took place on the 4th of December, and the Queen, who appeared in state, was received by the judges and high legal functionaries and leading representatives of the bar. The weather was not propitious, but the streets through which the royal cortege and the escort passed were decorated with flags and Venetian masts and crowded with people, whose demonstrations of loyalty were enthusiastic and abundant. The ceremony of the visit of her Majesty to the great hall, her reception of the key, and her presence in the courts, which she declared to be thenceforward open, was comparatively brief, but the scene was exceedingly striking,—the varied deep colours of official robes and decorations contrasting with the black gowns of the barristers and the brilliant dresses of the ladies and a sprinkling of military uniforms, having a very rich effect in that somewhat dim and depressing building. The occasion was marked by conferring an earldom on the lord-chancellor, Lord Selborne, and bestowing the honour of knighthood on the treasurers of the Inns of Court.

A considerable time elapsed—more than a year—before her Majesty was able again to take part in any important public ceremonial, or to appear in state amidst her people. There had been few domestic changes or occurrences in the royal family except that the Duke of Connaught, accompanied by the duchess, had gone to India in the course of his duties to fulfil a military appointment, and, on the 25th February, 1883, a daughter had

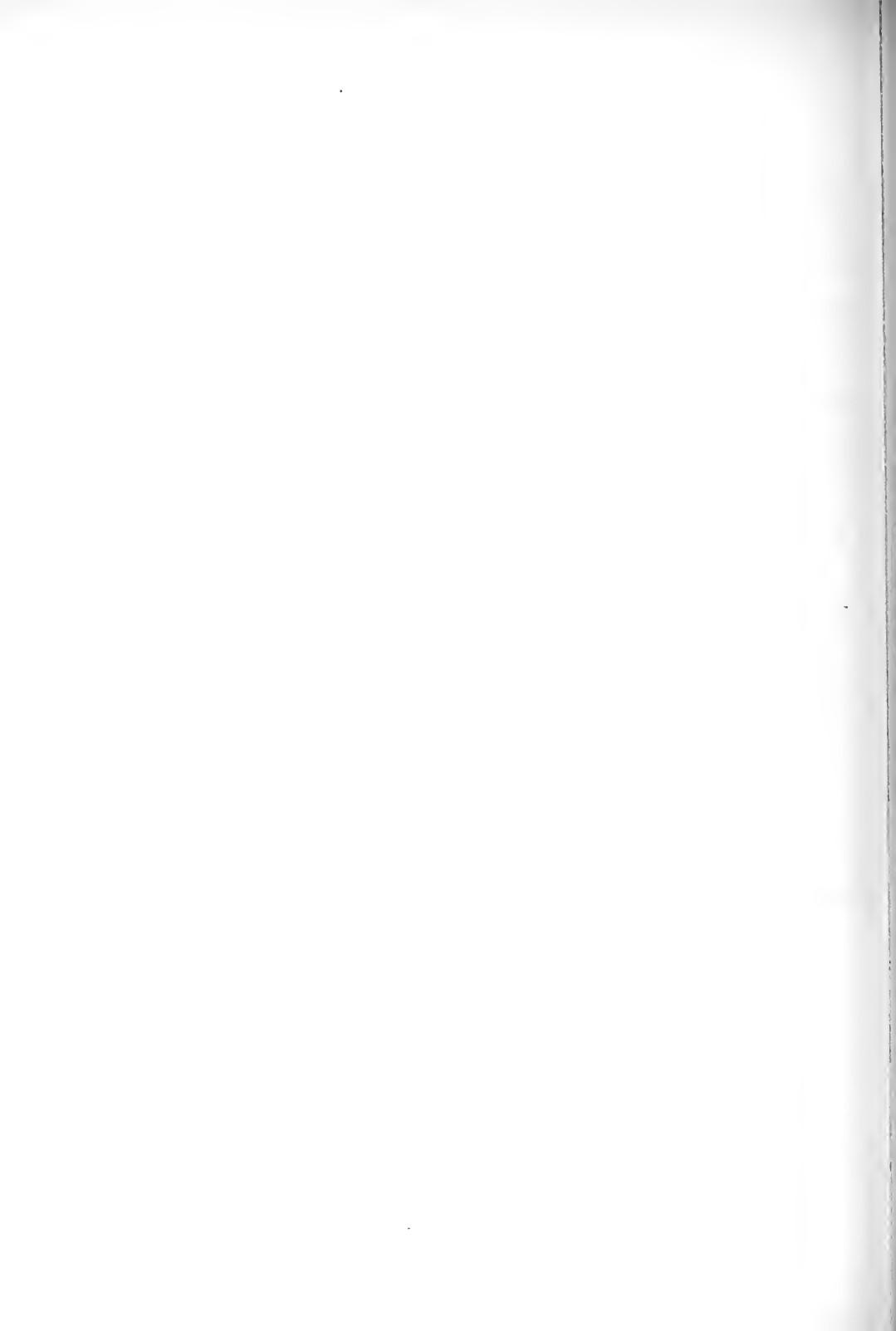




BY FREDERICK W. PEARCE

QUEEN VICTORIA SEATED IN THE CHAMBER OF THE PRINCE CHAMPION IN THE TOWER

FROM THE MARBLE SCULPTURE BY JAMES GIBSON, R.A., IN THE PRINCE CHAMPION CHAMBERS, TOWER OF LONDON



been born to the Duke and Duchess of Albany, and had received the names of Alice Mary; the first name in memory of the beloved sister to whom Prince Leopold had been deeply attached. It was not long afterwards that much uneasiness was caused by the intelligence that her Majesty was suffering from the results of an accident which, though in itself by no means serious, was attended with inconvenience, and it was feared might affect the Queen's health by preventing her from taking her accustomed walking exercise. While at Windsor Castle her Majesty in ascending the stairs had slipped and either struck or sprained her knee so severely that for some months either standing or walking was exceedingly painful.

The Prince of Wales was busily occupied in helping to promote an exhibition at South Kensington for the public display of all that related to the interest of British and foreign fisheries, and the various arts and industries connected with them. The subject was warmly taken up by several influential persons and associations both here and abroad, and the result was a most successful and interesting exhibition, which, as it included very charming evening concerts in the illuminated grounds of the Horticultural Society, attracted large numbers of visitors during the whole time that it was open in the summer and early autumn. This exhibition was the first of four successive displays in the same building, those of the three succeeding years being respectively called by popular abbreviation, the Healtheries, the Inventories, and the Colindies; the latter being a very superb display of the various products of the British Imperial Colonies and of India.

Though the year 1883 passed with little that was eventful to the royal family, there was considerable public excitement because of the cowardly attempts of so-called American-Irish

assassins and dynamiters; and murder and crimes of violence in Ireland itself gave serious trouble to the executive. Affairs in Egypt also caused much concern, as the insurrection of the wild tribes of the Soudan assumed more threatening proportions, menacing the territory of Egypt, the ports of the Red Sea, and even Cairo itself.

Almost before recovering sufficiently to reappear in public the Queen was again to suffer a deep domestic affliction in which her Majesty and the whole of the royal family had the heart-felt sympathy of the nation.

The Duke of Albany was, as we have seen, liable to sudden attacks of illness, more or less serious, but frequently grave enough to cause much uneasiness, as they were indicative of weakness of constitution, the symptoms of which were a tendency to external hemorrhage and such a want of strength as precluded any arduous exertion. From childhood his health had been exceedingly delicate, and this, no less than his mental tendency, caused him to live the quiet life of a student and a lover of art and letters. His attainments at the University of Oxford were varied and remarkable: in 1876 he received the degree of D.C.L., and in the following year was made a bencher in Lincoln's Inn. His undoubted talents were largely devoted to the promotion of education among the people and to the improvement and refinement of the surroundings of their common life, to the cultivation of art and general instruction in music in the schools and homes of the humbler classes, and the introduction of lessons in cookery and household management in schools attended by the children of the poor. These subjects received his cordial support, and he advocated the cause of popular education and improvement with conspicuous ability.

Precluded from the more robust and active avocations which

were to be found in the army, the navy, or the occupations of an explorer or a sportsman, he lived for a year after his marriage a retired and happy domestic life in his home at Claremont, where he was as ready to aid in local efforts for the improvement of the social and educational condition of the district, as he was willing to advocate the extension of the same advantages in the vaster area of London. It is recorded that his last public appearance in England was at Esher, at an amateur concert in aid of the funds of the village national school, where he contributed to the entertainment by singing “*The Sands o’ Dee*.” This was on the 15th of February, 1884, and early in the following month the medical advisers of the prince recommended him to go to the south of France to escape from the inclement east winds. The duchess was unable to accompany him to Cannes, and he therefore went alone, and in a short time derived so much benefit from the change that he was ready to participate in some of the festivities of the season, including those assemblies and balls to which distinguished guests were invited in his honour. Unhappily, though he was carefully attended by Dr. Royle, his medical adviser, and by his equerry Captain Perceval, his constitutional weakness seems to have been again tending towards a crisis of serious illness. On the 27th of March he was at the Cercle Nautique, and in ascending a staircase there, slipped and fell upon his knee, which was weak and had been injured in a similar way on some previous occasion. He was carried into an apartment, and Dr. Royle, who was in immediate attendance, applied a remedy which alleviated the injury. The prince was removed in a carriage to the Villa Nevada, where he resided, and so little did any serious result appear to be at all probable that he sent some telegraphic messages and wrote a letter to the duchess to reassure her, lest some alarming account of the

accident should first reach her. He was apparently under no apprehension that the injury would have any graver result than to detain him at Cannes for a few days longer; nor did his medical attendant attribute any danger to it, but at the same time care for his patient caused him to remain near the bedside at night after the prince had fallen asleep. This precaution was most unhappily justified by the event. The prince slept soundly till about two o'clock on the morning of the 28th, when an alarming change in his breathing became apparent, and he was found to be in some kind of fit from which he never rallied, but in a short time ceased to live.

The sad news was telegraphed to London, and reached Windsor Castle, where it had to be communicated by Sir Henry Ponsonby to the Queen, who was dreadfully overcome and could scarcely comprehend it. Some fears had been entertained on receipt of the former telegrams mentioning the accident which had befallen the prince. The Princess Christian, who was on a visit to Claremont House, was in the library with the Duchess of Albany when the telegram announcing the duke's death arrived. It was handed to the princess, but the duchess, who feared some ill news, begged that she might learn the worst, and the terrible message was then communicated to her. For a time she appeared to be paralysed and stricken mute with grief, yet unable to realize the bereavement; and the loving care and sympathy of those who mourned with the young widow were needed to restore her to the less dangerous condition of giving some scope to her sorrow. Her condition of health at the time, too, occasioned very grave apprehension, and not only in the royal family and the court, but in every grade of society and throughout the country, heart-felt compassion was expressed and many sincere prayers were offered for her. In the midst of her

own grief the Queen, who was then suffering much pain, manifested tender interest and anxious concern for her beloved daughter-in-law.

The Prince of Wales, who was at Aintree when the intelligence reached him, returned at once to London, that he might proceed to Cannes and accompany the lifeless remains of his brother on board the *Osborne* to Portsmouth and thence to Windsor, where her Majesty, with her daughters, Princess Christian and Princess Beatrice, went to the railway-station to meet the train conveying the body of the beloved youngest son. The coffin—borne by men of the Seaforth Highlanders, a detachment of whom awaited it—was carried to the chapel, where a short service was held in presence of the Queen and those members of the royal family who could be present. There the bereaved Duchess of Albany looked upon the bier and the coffin, which, with its velvet pall, was soon covered and almost concealed by the floral tributes placed upon it by loving hands.

The funeral ceremony took place on the following day, and the observances, though of a private character, were exceedingly striking and solemn. Among the mourners were many who had but two years before attended the celebration of the wedding of him whose death they now deplored. The father of the widowed duchess—the Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont—and his sister the Queen of the Netherlands were present; the Prince of Wales as chief mourner, the Crown-prince of Germany, the Grand-duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge followed the coffin, which, to the slow music of Chopin's funeral march, and with the firing of minute-guns, had been borne to St. George's Chapel by a party of Seaforth Highlanders, men of the late duke's regiment.

The Queen entered the chapel leaning on the arm of the Princess of Wales, and was followed by the Princesses Christian, Louise, and Beatrice, and Princess Frederica of Hanover, but the Duchess of Edinburgh was unable to be present because of her delicate state of health. Her Majesty and the princesses, who had been conducted by the lord-chamberlain to their seats, rose as the coffin was borne slowly towards them and into the choir. Everyone else remained standing after the Queen had entered the chapel.

The funeral service was read by the Dean of Windsor, and at the singing of the anthem, "Blessed are the departed," her Majesty again rose. Amidst profound emotion as the dean pronounced the words, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," the scattering grains of mould fell upon the coffin from the hand of Lord Brooke, who had been the intimate friend and fellow-student of the prince at Oxford, and had been named one of the executors of his will.

The Queen having been disciplined to wear the crown of sorrow, preserved a calm demeanour, though it was evident that she was deeply afflicted, and after standing till the conclusion of the closing hymn her Majesty and the princesses quitted the chapel. Garter King of Arms having proclaimed the style and titles of the late prince, the Prince of Wales stood sadly watching the coffin as it sank into the vault, where it remained till it was removed to the Memorial Chapel on the 30th July, 1885.

The regard in which Prince Leopold was held by those who were well qualified to estimate his character and attainments found expression in the addresses of condolence passed in both Houses of Parliament, offering to the Queen and the widowed Duchess of Albany the sympathy of the representatives of the nation, in language which Earl Granville

in the Lords and Mr. Gladstone in the Commons had eloquently and earnestly interpreted. But it was not through their representatives in parliament alone that sympathy with our Sovereign Lady and her bereaved daughter-in-law was expressed by the people. By various channels, and with a tender loyalty which found a thousand voices, the popular feeling was made known to the Queen, who replied in a letter of heart-felt thanks to the nation for these consoling tokens of regard.

Her Majesty had suffered much during the previous year from the effects of the accident to which reference has been made, and to that suffering had been added profound sorrow for the loss of a faithful and devoted servant, whose constant and careful attendance is repeatedly spoken of in her Majesty's journal. On the 27th of March, 1883, John Brown, the Highland retainer who had been the trusted attendant both of the Prince Consort and the Queen, died after only three days' illness, regretted by all who knew him.

In the concluding page in the second series (*More Leaves from the Journal of a Life in the Highlands*), dated Balmoral, November, 1883, her Majesty records in grateful words her grief that "the faithful attendant who is so often mentioned throughout these Leaves, is no longer with her whom he served so truly, devotedly, untiringly."

There was great excitement during the year 1884 because of the situation in Egypt and the uncertainty which appeared to exist in the ministry with regard to the policy which would be pursued. Though the government had urged the khedive to abandon the Soudan, where the insurgent tribes who followed the Mahdi were increasing in number, this advice was not immediately followed, and instead of promptly ordering the

evacuation of Khartum by the garrison and the European inhabitants, the Egyptian government delayed until the insurgent hordes, who had already destroyed the small Egyptian and Nubian army under General Hicks at Kashgil, were swarming in Kordofan, had occupied Obeid, and were likely to advance to Berber and Khartum before the desired movement could be effected.

It had been represented to the Egyptian government that the southern provinces of the Soudan should be abandoned, that the territory of the khedive in Egypt should be defined by a line drawn at Wady Halfa at the second cataract of the Nile, and that any attempt of the insurgents to invade Egypt beyond that line might be resisted by the Egyptian army aided by the British troops still remaining in the country; but this counsel was resisted by the ministers of the khedive till it was too late to save the garrisons at Berber and Khartum, while in the Red Sea territory the attempt to relieve the garrisons of Sinkat and Tokar by an Egyptian force under British officers in the service of the khedive was frustrated by the inefficiency of the troops, and Vice-admiral Sir William Hewett was ordered to go with some vessels of the Mediterranean squadron for the protection of Suakim, where he was appointed governor for the preservation of European interests.

It was then indirectly urged upon our government to induce the khedive and his ministers to join in giving a commission to General Gordon for the liberation of the garrison and people of Khartum and Berber, and the evacuation of the Soudan provinces after the organization of a system of settled native government under the pashas and sultans of the various territories. Gordon, who was at that time preparing to enter the service of the King of the Belgians to establish in concert

with Mr. H. M. Stanley, the African explorer, a mission for the suppression of the slave-trade at the head-waters of the Congo, promptly accepted the appointment directly the Egyptian consent was obtained, and left England for Egypt, where in addition to the instructions he had received here he had further directions that he was to act under the orders of the British government through the consular agent at Cairo. Before he left for Berber and Khartûm, however, he had received from the khedive a renewal of his former appointment of Governor-general of the Soudan; and so, with comparatively unlimited authority but very little material aid on the one hand, and with definite restrictions on the other, he entered upon a task that had already grown beyond those powers of personal influence with the native chiefs which might have been effectual at an earlier date, and his failure in which led to the despatch of those columns which, under Lord Wolseley and his generals, sought to reach Khartûm by the Nile and by the desert.

There were important measures before parliament which aroused the utmost public interest, especially in relation to a bill for the extension of the franchise by assimilating the right of voting in counties to that exercised in towns. There was much opposition to the measure, especially in the House of Lords, on the ground that a bill for the redistribution of seats in parliament should accompany any proposal for extending to the counties the household and lodger franchises and conferring household suffrage on Ireland, where previously no householder was entitled to vote unless he occupied lands or premises rated to the poor at a net annual value of £4 or upwards. An important provision of the bill was that which suppressed "faggot votes," or the pretence of a number of persons joining in a tenancy which only belonged to one, for the purpose of the

fraudulent creation of freehold rent charges for multiplying votes. This "Representation of the People Act" passed and received the royal assent on the 5th of December, 1884, and came into operation on the 1st of January, 1885; but the measure for redistribution of seats, though it was brought in immediately afterwards, was delayed by debates and contention till June, 1885, as it included considerable changes designed to adjust the representation of boroughs to their population.

There were again symptoms of Russian aggression on the frontier of Afghanistan, and some preparation had to be made in view of an advance of the Muscovite general, who acted with such insufferable arrogance that his conduct had to be repudiated by his own government, which afterwards rewarded him. There was no declaration of hostilities, however, and the crisis passed without our having recourse to a display of force.

There were signs that Mr. Gladstone and his ministry were not unwilling to retire from office, and when the opposition challenged the budget by an amendment on the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, no precautions seemed to be taken against the ensuing defeat by a small majority, which brought the Conservatives into power under Lord Salisbury, who was apparently not quite prepared for such a result, and discovered that in order to maintain a majority it would be necessary to conciliate the Irish party in the House of Commons. He was able to announce a firm and consistent foreign policy upon the lines of existing arrangements, and succeeded in opening negotiations with Russia for the definite settlement of a boundary and thus preventing threatened hostilities.

In Egypt the failure of the expedition to accomplish the rescue of General Gordon and the garrison of Khartûm had practically ended the campaign, and our troops were recalled,

though it was still necessary to maintain a force to protect the Egyptian Nile territory; and at Suakim, where the rebels, under the slave-dealing chief Osman Digma, had been defeated and scattered by the troops that were sent there under the command of General Graham, Sir John M'Neill, and other officers, and where there had been an arduous campaign and severe fighting with the fierce and wily savage tribes of the Eastern Soudan.

To the great satisfaction of the Queen and all her Majesty's subjects in the mother country the people of New South Wales and the sister colonies of Australia evinced an ardent desire to aid us in supporting the interests of the empire by forming an efficient force as a New South Wales contingent to co-operate with our troops at Suakim. On the 3d of March, 1885, a thoroughly well-trained body of troops, consisting of 28 officers and nearly 600 men, including 30 artillerymen with their guns, embarked from Sydney under the command of their colonel (Colonel Richardson), and on the 29th they had reached Suakim and were encamped on the sandy plains beside their comrades from Britain, who had received them with hearty good-will and enthusiasm. Lord Derby on behalf of the government had accepted with expressions of gratification the loyal offer of the services of this admirable contingent. The Duke of Cambridge had sent an appreciative message, and on the embarkation of the men the Queen had telegraphed, in answer to the message sent by Lord Augustus Loftus: "Greatly gratified by your account of the departure of the contingent and enthusiasm displayed by my loyal subjects." On their landing at Suakim the Australians were met by Sir G. Graham, who welcomed them in the name of the forces under his command as comrades and brothers in arms; and when at the end of the campaign, and after seven

weeks of good service, the Australians were ordered home, on the 15th of May, General Lord Wolseley, who had reviewed them, spoke in terms of high praise and congratulation of their efficiency and of the pride he felt in having had them under his command, saying in his despatch: "They will carry home with them the thanks of our Sovereign and the best wishes of those with whom they fought side by side." In a farewell message the Queen commanded her thanks to be conveyed to the contingent, and wishing them a prosperous homeward voyage her Majesty expressed her satisfaction that her colonial forces had served side by side with British troops in the field.

On the 16th of April her Majesty, with the Princess Beatrice, left London for Darmstadt that she might be with her motherless grandchildren, the children of the beloved Princess Alice, on the occasion of the marriage of the eldest daughter, the Princess Victoria Alberta, to Prince Louis of Battenberg, son of Prince Alexander of Battenberg (Hesse), and brother of Prince Alexander of Battenberg, then the elected reigning prince of Bulgaria. The celebration of the wedding had been appointed for the 30th of April, and the Queen, who had ever regarded her grandchildren with true maternal tenderness, felt it to be her duty to be present. Her Majesty travelled privately to Aix-les-Bains, and thence to Darmstadt, where the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived on the morning of the day appointed for the ceremony, which was attended by a number of royal and distinguished personages.

Her Majesty returned to England a week afterwards, and went at once to Windsor, for the condition of the Duchess of Albany naturally occasioned much anxiety, which was happily alleviated by the birth of a son on the 19th of July, and the favourable recovery of the mother whose recent bereavement had

been so sudden and its possible results so alarming. The infant prince was christened at Esher on the 16th of November, and named Leopold Charles Edward George; the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the royal family being present on the occasion.

At the time of the wedding at Darmstadt the Grand-duke Serge of Russia was already betrothed to the sister of the bride, the Princess Elizabeth (second daughter of the late Princess Alice and the Grand-duke of Hesse), and their wedding followed in June; but an event of certainly not less importance to the Queen, and of more importance to her subjects, was the meeting and subsequent mutual regard of our Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg, the younger brother of the bridegroom.

Prince Alexander of Hesse, the father of the bridegroom, had achieved a brilliant reputation in the Russian military service, and for a short time (in 1858) he was previously in the Austrian service in command of a division in Lombardy. He had married Julia, the Countess Haucke, who was raised to the rank of princess in consequence of this alliance, and as we have seen, in referring to the grand-ducal family of Hesse, his sister was the Empress of Russia, mother of the Duchess of Edinburgh.

Prince Henry, though born at Milan during his father's Austrian service, was removed in his infancy to the beautiful family mansion at Jugenheim, the country seat where the Empress of Russia was so frequent a visitor before her death in 1880, and to which so many illustrious guests resorted. The young prince was educated at Schepfenthal in Thuringia, and, having chosen the army as a profession, entered the corps of gentlemen cadets at Dresden and became a lieutenant in the first regiment of Saxon Hussars. After spending some time in

travelling in Egypt, Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, and Bulgaria, he exchanged from the Saxon to the Prussian service, and joined the King's Hussars stationed at Bonn, where he entered with equal zest and success into the pleasant life and the interesting avocations for which the society of the old university town is famous. In 1882, however, he was transferred to the famous "Gardes du Corps" of Berlin, where the claims of society were mitigated by opportunities for the study of the fine arts, to which the prince is said to have been much devoted, and by foreign travel, one of his journeys being made in company with his father to the court of St. Petersburg after the assassination of the Emperor Alexander II.

Of the Princess Beatrice—our own princess, the daughter who, through these later years, has been the constant companion and dear devoted friend of our Sovereign Lady—there is no need to say many words. Her quiet, domestic, and yet actively beneficent and finely cultured life has been hitherto passed in our midst. Her attainments in art, her proficiency in music, the personal grace and social charm, the delicate feminine tact and perception which distinguish her, belong to the royal domestic life, but they have become known to us because they have been often associated with works of benevolence; and in the wider scope of national regard, no less than in the circle of the court and the royal household and among the humbler inhabitants or the poor cottagers of Osborne, Windsor, and Balmoral, are held precious. In those earlier days, before the cloud of sorrow loomed close and dark, the Queen had, with a touch of maternal yearning, recorded how she desired to keep one daughter with her—not to part from her too soon;—but almost before the wish was written or spoken it was qualified by the unselfish thought that she must not expect to keep either of them near her always.

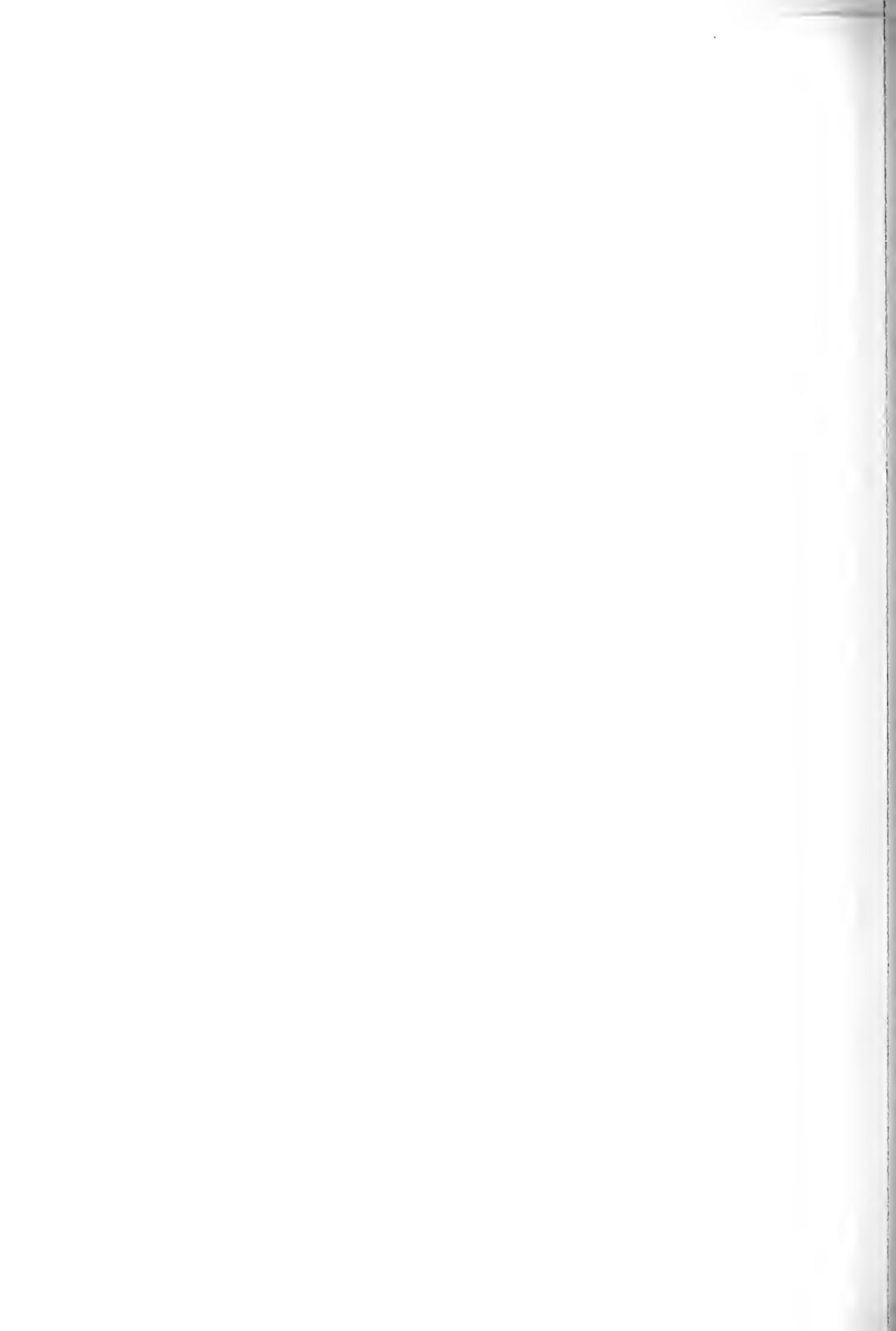
It has been to the happiness of her Majesty that the youngest has remained near her not only in the bud of infancy, the opening blossom of girlhood, but to the riper bloom of noble and beloved womanhood; and it must have been a consolation to the mother's heart that her daughter-friend would not necessarily be far removed from her by the alliance to which she had consented.

Again at the end of April, 1885, the Queen and the princess were at Darmstadt at the confirmation of her Majesty's grandson the hereditary Grand-duke of Hesse, and on their return to London preparations began to be made for the marriage of the princess, which took place on the 23d of July, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught coming from Bombay that they might be present on the occasion.

There seemed to be something appropriate in the celebration of the marriage at Whippingham Church, the church of the parish in which the royal residence at Osborne is situated. It gave to the occasion that gentle character of domestic peace and simplicity with which thoughts of the Princess Beatrice have mostly been associated. The little church was very charmingly decorated with flowers, and is beautiful enough to be no unfit scene for the celebration of the marriage of a princess of the royal house. Mrs. Prothero, the wife of the Rev. Canon Prothero, vicar of Whippingham, had superintended the decorations. The people of Cowes and of the district beyond it had done their best to make streets, roads, house fronts, and even rustic lanes, gay with festal flags and garlands, and the whole route which was to be taken by the long line of carriages, bearing a host of royal and distinguished guests, had been beautified by abundant signs of loyal rejoicing. A very brilliant cortege wound along the roads leading to the church on that lovely summer's morning. The Queen was once more amidst

her children, only the eldest, the Crown-princess of Prussia, being absent, and the ten lovely bridesmaids were her grandchildren, the nieces of the bride, the Princesses of Wales and Schleswig-Holstein, and the Princesses Irene and Alix of Hesse. The royal, grand-ducal, and other princely and noble relations having arrived at the church, and the bridegroom having taken his place near the altar supported by the Grand-duke of Hesse, the Prince of Wales awaited at the church door the arrival of the Queen and the Princess Beatrice. A skirr of bagpipes was one of the first intimations of the approach of the royal carriage, and almost immediately afterward the bridal procession entered the church to the sound of Wagner's Wedding March, forming an extremely charming picture. The Queen and the Princess of Wales were placed in front of the communion table, the bride and bridegroom advancing, the Princess Beatrice being supported by her brother the Prince of Wales, whose manner to his sister was characteristically kind and gentle. The officiating clergy were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Winchester, the Dean of Windsor, and Canon Prothero. The service was choral, and her Majesty the Queen gave away the bride. After the wedding breakfast at Osborne the bride and bridegroom drove to Quarr Abbey, the residence of Lady Cochrane, amidst affectionate demonstrations from the people who crowded the roads and wayside meadows all the way to Quarr. One of the latest greetings on their leaving Osborne was from the Duke of Connaught, who, with his usual *bonhomie* and kindly vivacity, had made a short cut across the fields on foot to a point where he emerged on the road at some distance, and was seen shouting and waving a vigorous farewell amidst the good-humoured jostling crowd. The interest in the wedding of the youngest child of our Sovereign Lady was deep







H. R. H.

BEATRICE MARY VICTORIA
PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG

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and sincere, and the reason was not far to seek. The poet-laureate wrote:—

. . . “The mother weeps
At that white funeral of the single life,
Her maiden daughter’s marriage; and her tears
Are half of pleasure, half of pain,—the child
Is happy—ev’n in leaving *her!* but Thou,
True daughter, whose all-faithful filial eyes
Have seen the loneliness of earthly thrones,
Wilt neither quit the widow’d crown, nor let
This later light of Love have risen in vain,
But moving thro’ the mother’s home, between
The two that love thee, lead a summer life,
Sway’d by each Love, and swaying to each Love
Like some conjectured planet in mid heaven
Between two Suns, and drawing down from both
The light and genial warmth of double day.”

The losses sustained by our army during the expedition to the Soudan for the relief of General Gordon were much deplored by the Queen and the nation. Gordon himself had been killed almost at the time when help was at hand; Colonel Burnaby had fallen at Abu Klea when the desert column was fighting its way; Sir Herbert Stewart, who commanded it, died of wounds received in a second battle at Abu Kru; General Earle was slain while in command of the river column which was to join the desert force on the Nile banks; and other distinguished officers of lower ranks perished in the campaign. At home the obituary of the year included the names of a number of famous men, among whom the great veteran philanthropist Lord Shaftesbury was perhaps most widely missed and mourned, for to the end of a long life he had vigorously and consistently wrought for the moral and social improvement of the poorer classes of the population, and had instituted and helped to

maintain a number of institutions, the beneficial effects of which were incalculable. During the campaign in Egypt much good work had been effected by an association of ladies for the aid of sick and wounded soldiers and sailors, the objects of the society being indefatigably promoted by the Princess Louise, the Duchess of Albany, and the Princess Frederica of Hanover, on each of whom her Majesty conferred the order of the Royal Red Cross in recognition of services to which the Queen herself had given attentive personal interest.

There was still a conflict in Burmah, where we had been obliged to resort to hostilities which ended in the dethronement of King Theebaw, an unscrupulous tyrant who had persisted in gross violations of the treaties which had been effected for the protection of Europeans in that country, and had been guilty of numerous atrocious cruelties against his own people. By the end of the year the authority of a settled government was established, though British officers, with a small force, had to remain to keep in check bands of rebels identified with brigands or dacoits who infested some parts of the country and continued to give much trouble.

Her Majesty, with the Prince and Princess of Battenberg, the Duchess of Albany, and other members of the royal family, was at Balmoral in the autumn months, and there received General Sir Garnet Wolseley, who was created Viscount Wolseley; Major-general Sir Frederick Roberts, who had returned to England; and other distinguished guests. Sir Stafford Northcote had already been raised to the peerage as Lord Iddesleigh, and in the Salisbury administration became First Lord of the Treasury without the premiership (an arrangement unknown in the history of modern ministries), while Lord Salisbury united to his own office of Prime Minister that of

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. On the return of her Majesty to Windsor on the 18th of November a council was held, at which the royal sanction was given to a dissolution of parliament, and a general election commenced on the 23d, the result of which was that the government of Lord Salisbury, though it had secured the support of the Irish party, had not a working majority which could ensure its stability.

On the 21st of January, 1886, her Majesty personally opened the session of parliament. The occasion was one of much magnificence, and the manifestations of loyalty as the royal cortége passed along the route from Buckingham Palace to Westminster showed how welcome was the presence of the Sovereign amidst the people in the capital of the empire. The scene at the House of Peers was gorgeous and imposing; the superb robes and uniforms, the brilliant and varied hues of dresses and jewels where members of the royal family and peeresses were seated awaiting her Majesty's arrival, the sumptuous colour and ornament of the chamber itself, lent a marvellous contrast to the aspect of the wet and wintry streets, where snow was falling and the sky was overcast. As the Queen entered the house the Prince of Wales approached and raised her hand to his lips as her Majesty greeted him with a gracious gesture of stately regard. Her Majesty wore a robe of black velvet trimmed with ermine, a small coronet, and the Koh-i-noor as a brooch, with the order of the Garter and other orders, and having taken her seat on the throne, handed the written speech to the Lord Chancellor, who read it to the assembled Lords and Commons. The splendid pageant was too brief for those who had come merely as spectators, for the royal speech takes but a short time to read, and almost before the eyes of the onlookers became accustomed to the superb glow and glitter, the brilliant

picture was broken into scattered hues, there was a movement like the shifting glints in a kaleidoscope, the figure on which every eye was fixed had slowly risen and glided from the scene; there was a murmur of voices, a fanfare of trumpets, and it was known that the Sovereign was already returning to Buckingham Palace, amidst the mighty acclamations of the multitude who had been standing during all that cold raw morning in the streets, filling them with the pulses of national life, and with the vast harmony of cheering which rolled onward in a surging wave of sound.

Neither the session nor the parliament lasted long. It became evident that, notwithstanding the propitiatory attitude which the government had assumed to the Irish party, the immediate policy which would be proposed for Ireland was one rather of coercion than of conciliation, and the result was the defeat of the ministry a few days afterwards, when Mr. Gladstone was again called upon to take the helm of state, and commenced legislation for Ireland by bringing forward measures to alter the provision for its internal government. These measures did not commend themselves to a number of those members of the Liberal party who had been followers of Mr. Gladstone, and who thought that the result of his proposals would in effect be the repeal of the Union between Ireland and Great Britain. This conclusion caused the secession of a considerable number of influential members of the Liberal party, who called themselves, or were called, "Liberal Unionists," and as they gave the weight of their votes on the Irish question to the Conservatives, the government of Mr. Gladstone was defeated by 341 to 311 votes, and parliament was again dissolved. A general election commenced on the 1st of July, and Lord Salisbury formed a new Conservative ministry virtually dependent for its continuance

on the votes of those Liberals who were opposed to "Home Rule" for Ireland, which they declared was, or would become, synonymous with the severance of Irish from British rule. Amidst intense political excitement and many signs of social eruption, demonstrations of loyal regard for our Sovereign Lady were repeatedly manifested throughout the empire with a depth of sincerity, the expression of which was accentuated and was probably emphasized by the fact that preparations were already being made, worthily to celebrate the jubilee of her Majesty's reign, the fiftieth anniversary of which would be completed in the following year.

During the early spring of 1886 her Majesty had held drawing-rooms at Buckingham Palace, and there had been a general air of revival in court circles; especially as it was known that the Queen had consented to appear again in public on the 24th of March to lay the foundation-stone of the new Medical Examination Hall of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons on the Victoria Embankment at the end of Savoy Place near Waterloo Bridge. The occasion was worthy of being made important, and the decorations of the streets, public buildings, shops, and houses on the line of route were exceedingly rich and effective: the road was kept at intervals by men of the Horse and the Foot Guards, as well as by the police. The royal procession was in open state carriages, escorted by Life Guards, and the bright and peculiarly genial weather made the sights and sounds of rejoicing doubly appropriate and significant. On the site of the building a spacious pavilion had been erected and tastefully decorated with crimson cloth, bright-hued flowers, and flags. A raised dais beautifully decorated with ferns was designed to receive the royal visitors, and tiers of seats overlooking it were arranged for the ladies,

representatives of various learned societies, and other distinguished guests. The scene presented by the interior of the pavilion was singular, striking, and picturesque. Accompanying her Majesty were Prince Christian, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Henry of Battenberg, and members of the suite; and with her Majesty in the last carriage were the Princess Christian, Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Connaught. The splendour and variety of colour of uniforms, college hoods, robes, and ladies' dresses, relieved here and there by darker hues of scholastic gowns and civilian attire, and the white surplices of the choir of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, was very remarkable, especially at the moment when the notes of the national anthem announced the approach of the Queen, who was received by the presidents of the two colleges, Sir William Jenner and Mr. W. S. Savory.

The Prince of Wales, the Princess Louise, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, the Marquis of Lorne, and the Duke of Abercorn entered before the arrival of the Queen, who was accompanied by the princesses, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the great officers of state. Her Majesty occupied a regal chair on the dais. The Archbishop of Canterbury, whose place was opposite the throne, advanced to the foundation-stone near the edge of the dais, and offered up prayer for a blessing on the work about to be inaugurated. The Lord's Prayer having been chanted by the choir, who also sang a hymn, the music to which was a composition by Prince Albert, the president of the Royal College of Surgeons advanced and read a short address of thanks to her Majesty explaining the reason and intention of providing the building about to be inaugurated as an examination hall. Her Majesty having received the address and handed it to the Prince of Wales, said:

"I thank you for your loyal address. It is with sincere

pleasure that I lay the foundation-stone of the building which you propose to erect. I cordially concur in the hope which you have expressed, that this undertaking, in which I take a deep and personal interest, may largely contribute to the further advancement of medical and surgical education. The establishment of this hall is mainly due to the efforts you have made in conjunction with the president of the Royal College of Physicians, with whom I have been long personally acquainted, and whose eminent abilities and far-seeing knowledge have justly placed him in the foremost rank of those who have benefited mankind."

This reply was greeted with loud cheering, which her Majesty acknowledged by bowing right and left, and then placed in two glass jars copies of the *Times*, the *Morning Post*, and the *Lancet*, and a collection of current coins of the realm. The jars were then fitted into a cavity in the stone, to which her Majesty affixed some mortar with a silver-gilt trowel. The stone having been lowered to its place, the Queen saw the accuracy of its setting proved, and then, striking it three times with a small mallet, declared it to be well and truly laid. It bore the inscription: "VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, laid with her own hand this stone, 24th March, 1886."

The ceremony was a brief one, and her Majesty and the royal party returned to Buckingham Palace before two o'clock. In the afternoon the Queen, who had resolved to remain in London instead of returning to Windsor, again drove out in an open landau, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and a lady-in-waiting, and attended by the royal equerries. The weather was delightful, and great crowds of spectators had assembled. The enthusiasm with which her Majesty's reappearance was received

showed that the people thoroughly appreciated her gracious intention to give them the opportunity of greeting her with those loyal demonstrations which they earnestly wished to express and she strongly desired to acknowledge.

Another alarming incident had occurred almost immediately after the Queen had left the palace. The royal party had only driven about a hundred yards from the gate when a man rushed up and flung a paper packet into the carriage. It was at once thrown out by one of the Highland attendants who sat behind, and the man was seized by the police, while the Queen and Princess Beatrice, who did not seem to be much alarmed, continued their drive. The packet was found to be an official envelope addressed to the Queen, and containing a letter and some papers—probably a petition, though the nature of its contents was not made known. The man, who was said to be a discharged soldier, was eventually set at liberty, as it was not shown that he had intended any mischief. Her Majesty and the princess returned to Windsor, as on the 17th the Duchess of Connaught had given birth to a daughter—the Princess Victoria Patricia Helena Elizabeth,—and the Queen desired to be near her until her recovery before going to Osborne. At the end of April her Majesty had the happiness of receiving her eldest daughter, the Crown-princess of Germany, who had come on a fortnight's visit.

On the 4th of May the Queen came to London for the purpose of opening in state the Colonial and Indian Exhibition at South Kensington. The universal interest which had attended the organization of this exhibition was immeasurably enhanced when it became known that a magnificent state ceremonial would be observed on the occasion of its opening, and that the eager anticipations of the spectacle which would be

presented by the splendid collection of natural productions, arts, industries, and manufactures, sent thither from every part of the empire, would be fitly inaugurated by the presence of our Sovereign Lady among the representatives of her subjects from every clime. The countless objects which had been received from our vast Indian possessions, from our North American territories, from Africa, from the great and growing colonies of Australasia, and from the remote islands of the sea, where commerce has followed the British flag, made a superb and dazzling show,—and the occasion was one to which only a royal and imperial observance would have been appropriate.

Of the previous exhibitions of the three preceding years the Prince of Wales had been the patron and president, and he had used active exertions to promote their success—exertions which he is ever ready to make for any good cause associated with the welfare and happiness of his fellow-countrymen; but with this far-reaching scheme for exhibiting in one superb collection the representative productions of the Empire he had from the first been personally identified, for it was due to his initiative, and had been taking definite shape and purpose in his mind ever since 1878, when he was executive president at the Paris Exhibition. The constant and laborious attention which he devoted to every detail of the scheme, and the practical grasp and wide administrative ability which he displayed as its executive president, were known only to those colleagues whom he summoned to his aid, and with whom he had been assiduously working, when he announced, at the close of the Fisheries Exhibition of 1883, that this extensive undertaking would be accomplished in 1886—the year before the celebration of the Jubilee of her Majesty's reign.

In 1884 he had personally issued invitations to our colonies

and dependencies to make arrangements for contributing to the great representative display, and thus the legislative assemblies of the various governments had time to promote those magnificent typical collections, which showed how hearty was the response that came from all parts of her Majesty's dominions. The occasion was truly worthy of regal pomp and sumptuous pageantry, which had scarcely been witnessed since the International Exhibition of 1851; and the Queen, who had paid only comparatively private visits to the three former exhibitions, prepared to signalize by a state ceremonial the satisfaction with which she regarded the enterprise.

The weather was that of the traditional and poetic English May. Under blue skies and amidst brilliant sunshine, with gentle breezes sufficient to freshen the balmy air and to set flags and streamers gaily flying, the chief thoroughfares through which the royal cortége was to pass from Paddington Station to the Exhibition presented a bright and festive appearance, which was enhanced by the free use of coloured draperies at windows and balconies.

At the Exhibition building itself the main entrance displayed a row of flags representing the various colonies, amidst which, on a lofty flagstaff, was the royal standard ready to be unfurled on the arrival of the Queen. The broad roadway, like the principal streets on the line of route, had been crowded from an early hour, and within the building a vast number of people had taken the places assigned to them for witnessing the royal procession or the subsequent ceremony. The roadway, kept clear by Life Guards and police, was a scene of successive arrivals of carriages filled with superbly-attired ladies, officials in court dress, ministers of state, and distinguished personages; while the clang and glitter of troops, the blazonry of yeomen,

trumpeters, and military bands, added fresh life and colour to the show. Before twelve o'clock some members of the royal family arrived: the Duke of Connaught and the Duke of Cambridge were in uniform, and they were soon followed by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince wearing the uniform of a field-marshall and the blue riband of the Garter. Amidst acclamations, the presentation of arms by the guard of honour, and the playing of the national anthem, they entered the building, the scene in which was brilliant beyond description,—the rich and vivid colours of civil and military officers, the more subdued tones of ladies' dresses, the intense contrast of the white robes of Parsees and the gorgeous oriental garments of Indian princes and nobles; the gleam of gold and jewels, the sober garb of civilians, the court suits or plainer attire of the representatives of the various colonies,—made a marvellous effect in those long galleries through which the Sovereign was to pass amidst her faithful subjects, and surrounded by superb evidences of the vast resources of the Empire.

Her Majesty with the Crown-princess of Germany and the Princess Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg) drove to Windsor Station, whither they were preceded by ladies-in-waiting and some of the chief officers of the household, and before twelve o'clock the royal train reached Paddington, where six carriages, each drawn by four bay horses, were in waiting to convey her Majesty and the princesses with their suite, the Queen being in the last carriage with the Crown-princess of Germany and the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg. One can well imagine that our Sovereign Lady must have needed to exercise all her calm self-control on that journey from Paddington to South Kensington, along a route at every point of which the voices of the people rose in renewed acclaim,

and in tones of earnest loyalty and affection; for the occasion was infinitely suggestive of strong and mingled emotions; but the route was not a long one, and at about a quarter-past twelve her Majesty, preceded by the great officers of state, arrived at the building, and entered the hall, where a flourish of trumpets heralded her coming. Her Majesty was received by the Prince of Wales, and was joined by the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duchess of Connaught, and the other ladies of the royal family, some of whom had awaited her arrival in a pavilion erected at the gate. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught each kissed the hand of the Queen, who returned the salute by kissing each of her sons on the cheek; and then having accepted a bouquet of orchids and yellow roses from the youngest daughter of Sir Cunliffe and Lady Owen, and received the executive commissioners of the Exhibition, who were presented to her by the Prince of Wales, passed along the galleries leading to the Albert Hall, accompanied by a brilliant procession, through a scarcely less brilliant assembly, which culminated in the superb spectacle of another assembly of some 12,000 people, tier above tier, from *parterre* to dome of the vast amphitheatre, the arena of which was ablaze with gold and colour, and rippled with the gleam of jewels and ornaments. The royal dais was draped in crimson, its centre being occupied by a throne of hammered gold (formerly in the possession of the East India Company) beneath a canopy of Indian cloth of gold, surmounted by a baldachino of gold-embroidered velvet, looped with chains and pendants of gold and silver Delhi work. On the back of the canopy was the monogram of Victoria, Queen and Empress, surmounted by the imperial crown embroidered in gold.

Preceded by pursuivants of arms, heralds gorgeously apparelled, and the great officers of the household, the Queen

entered the hall, the Prince of Wales leading her to the throne, beside which he stood as the stringed instruments played the national anthem, the verses being sung alternately in English and in Sanskrit.

Immediately following her Majesty were the Princess of Wales,—who moved to a seat on the right of the Queen,—the Crown-princess of Germany, the Duchess of Edinburgh and Prince Alfred, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg, the Duke of Cambridge, Princess Mary and the Duke of Teck, Princess Victoria of Teck, the Princess Frederica of Hanover and Baron Von Pawel Rammingen, and the hereditary Grand-duke and Grand-duchess of Oldenberg. At the conclusion of the anthem hearty, not to say uproarious, cheers were given in welcome to her Majesty, and an ode written for the occasion by the poet laureate, and set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, who conducted the orchestra, was beautifully sung by Madame Albani and the choir, and it was noticed that after each verse her Majesty smiled her thanks to the singer and applauded by gently clapping her hands. This incident, small as it seems to be, was rightly regarded by those who saw it as an evidence that through all the stress and storm of sorrow, and the cares and great duties of state, our Sovereign Lady had preserved the same kindly simple characteristics which happily distinguished her in those earlier days of which she has herself recorded so many pleasing recollections. The same quick and accurate observation, the same gracious perception, the same exquisite faculty of doing the right thing at the right moment, had been exemplified almost as soon as the royal party had arrived in the building, where her Majesty at once caught sight of an officer,—

Mr. George Read, chief coastguard inspector of Deal,—who was temporarily engaged at the Exhibition, and wore on his breast twelve medals for saving life. The Queen noticing these, before proceeding through the building spoke a few words to Mr. Read, referring to his services in the cause of humanity.

On the conclusion of the ode the Prince of Wales, turning to her Majesty, read an address, in which, as executive president, he made a brief statement of the proceedings of the royal commissioners, and dwelt with profound gratification on the earnest and appreciative manner in which the enterprise had been taken up by the people and governments of India and the Colonies as well as by the city of London, important associations and private individuals, representing almost every class of the community, who had promoted the interests and subscribed to the guarantee fund of the undertaking. After earnest expressions of loyalty and thanks for the deep interest her Majesty had taken in the Exhibition, as manifested by her presence there that day, his royal highness said: “Nor can I resist a reference to a similar ceremonial, presided over by your Majesty but a few paces from this spot thirty-five years ago. On that memorable occasion, the first of its kind, the Prince Consort, my beloved and revered father, filled the position which I, following in his footsteps at however great a distance, now have the honour and gratification of occupying. Your Majesty alone can fully realize with what deep interest my beloved father would, had he been spared, have watched, as their originator, the development of exhibitions both in this country and abroad; and with what especial pleasure he would have welcomed one having for its object the prosperity of your Majesty’s empire, the interests of which he had so much at heart.”

In reply, that clear and beautiful voice, the accents of which

have been listened to with delight in so many august assemblies, was heard in the vast hall; and every sound was hushed when her Majesty, after expressing her satisfaction with the results of the exertions of the Royal Commission, in which she had taken a deep and constant interest, said: "I am deeply moved by your reference to the circumstances in which the ceremony of 1851 took place, and I heartily concur in the belief you have expressed, that the Prince Consort, my beloved husband (had he been spared), would have witnessed with intense interest the development of his ideas, and would, I may add, have seen with pleasure our son taking the lead in the movement of which he was the originator. I heartily concur with you in the prayer that this undertaking may be the means of imparting a stimulus to the commercial interests and intercourse of all parts of my dominions, by encouraging the arts of peace and industry, and by strengthening the bond of union which now exists in every portion of my empire."

At the termination of her speech the Prince of Wales kissed the Queen's hand; but she, drawing him towards her, kissed him on the cheek.

The lord-chamberlain, at the command of her Majesty, then declared the Exhibition open, the announcement being marked by a flourish of trumpets and the firing of a royal salute in Hyde Park.

After an appropriate prayer had been offered by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the "Hallelujah Chorus" was sung by the choir, and the ceremony concluded by Madame Albani singing "Home, Sweet Home," in a manner which thrilled every heart. Her Majesty then bowed to the vast assembly, and, followed by the royal family, took her departure from the hall as the full choir sang "Rule Britannia."

With this brief account of the most important event immediately preceding the celebration of the jubilee of the reign of our Sovereign Lady, this portion of the present narrative might fitly close; but mention must be made of her Majesty's fulfilment of promises which she had given to the people of Liverpool and of Edinburgh to visit them for the purpose of inaugurating great industrial and commercial exhibitions which had been already nearly completed. Early on the morning of the 11th of May the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Connaught and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, arrived in Liverpool, where she was enthusiastically received by a vast concourse of people, who from a very early hour had filled the space behind the barricades in the main thoroughfares. The Queen drove to Newsham House, which had been set apart for her Majesty, and in the afternoon the royal procession, with an escort of the 3rd Hussars, passed through the superbly decorated streets to the Exhibition, amidst such vehement demonstrations of welcome that the popular enthusiasm became affecting in its evidences of loyal regard. The procession through the building consisted of the royal party and suite, the ministers and high officials in attendance, the lord-lieutenant and the high-sheriff of the county, the chancellor of the duchy of Lancashire, the mayor, and several distinguished ladies and gentlemen of local importance, including the architect and the executive council of the Exhibition. After an overture performed by an excellent orchestra, the Queen, who occupied a throne on a raised dais, received an address, which was read by the mayor, and afterwards presented to her in a casket. Her Majesty having replied in clear and audible tones, the Archbishop of York offered a prayer, and the full orchestra, composed of the Liverpool philharmonic societies, performed the overture and

opening chorus of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," followed by the national anthem. Her Majesty then received a gold key, which she turned in a model lock, and at her command Lord Granville declared the Exhibition to be open. Her Majesty then conferred the honour of knighthood on the mayor, Mr. David Radcliffe. At night the city was brilliantly illuminated, and, indeed, Liverpool remained *en fête* during the whole of the following day, when early in the morning the trades' processions and friendly societies marched through the decorated streets to the number of about 16,000; and at a later hour the Queen, who had not visited Liverpool since the autumn of 1851, again appeared with the royal party and made a tour of the city, and afterwards took a trip on the river Mersey in the steamer *Claughton*, which had been handsomely fitted with an upper-deck saloon with glass sides for the special reception of her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice. The trip on the river and the fine spectacle of numbers of great trading vessels, the training ships, the *Northampton*, which lay opposite New Brighton and fired a royal salute, and the *Great Eastern* lying at the Sloyne, and around which the *Claughton* steamed before returning, gave the Queen much pleasure. The trip lasted less than two hours, for her Majesty had earlier in the day paid a private visit to the Seamen's Orphanage before going through the great thoroughfares and to St. George's Hall, where an address had been presented inclosed in a very beautiful casket. The Duke of Connaught and Prince Henry of Battenberg visited some of the institutions, the duke taking special interest in the Royal Southern Hospital, which, after its extension, he had opened in 1872.

On the 13th her Majesty and the royal party returned to Windsor, whence the Queen shortly afterwards went to Bal-

moral, and remained there until late in June. On the 30th of June her Majesty opened the Royal College for the Education of Young Women at Egham, a large and splendidly appointed institution founded by the munificence of the late Mr. Holloway; and on the 2d of July held a review of 15,000 troops of all arms at Aldershot. On the 5th a large number of colonial and Indian visitors were entertained at Windsor Castle, the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the royal family being present.

The season had indeed been a busy one; and numerous drawing-rooms, levees, state concerts, balls, and assemblies had been held by command of her Majesty. All the royal princes and princesses were deeply pledged to various engagements, to attend conferences, open bridges, buildings, institutions, or public improvements, and there was a great deal of hard work, mitigated by perhaps more than the usual number of festivities and stately celebrations. On the 17th of August the Queen, accompanied by Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, left Osborne for Edinburgh, which was reached on the following morning. On the afternoon following her arrival her Majesty left Holyrood Palace and proceeded to visit the Edinburgh International Exhibition of Industry, Science, and Art. The cortége consisted of three carriages. In the first were the Duchess of Buccleuch, mistress of the robes, Lady Waterpark, lady-in-waiting, the Hon. Horatia Stopford, and Lord Bridport; in the second the Duke of Connaught, Prince Henry of Battenberg, Lord Cross, and the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour. The third carriage contained the Queen, the Duchess of Connaught, and Princess Henry of Battenberg. The royal carriage was accompanied by the Marquis of Lothian, Captain-General of the Royal Archers, and the Queen's Body Guard for Scotland; also

by the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby and General Sir John C. M'Neill, V.C., equerries in waiting. The streets were most effectively decorated, though the preparations had been, for the most part, left to the individual taste of the inhabitants. The route to the Exhibition was barricaded on each side to keep the roadway clear, and was crowded with people, who, at various points, were massed in enormous numbers, and whose exuberant loyalty was highly gratifying. The Marquis of Lothian, as president of the executive, rode forward to receive her Majesty at the gate, and both in the grounds and the building great preparation had been made. At the northern end of the great hall a dais for the royal circle, and a canopied throne for her Majesty, had been erected, and to this a procession was formed of the civic and executive authorities and the noble and distinguished company which awaited and attended the Queen. After the national anthem and a chorale, sung by the Edinburgh Choral Union, the Marquis of Lothian read an address, which he afterwards presented to the Queen inclosed in a gold casket; and her Majesty, having passed the casket to the Duke of Connaught, read a brief but most gracious reply from a scroll which she took from Sir Henry Ponsonby. The lord-provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and other dignitaries, were then presented to her Majesty, who accepted from Mr. Gowans, the chairman of the executive committee, a gold badge similar to that worn by the principal members of the executive, and bearing her Majesty's name as patron.

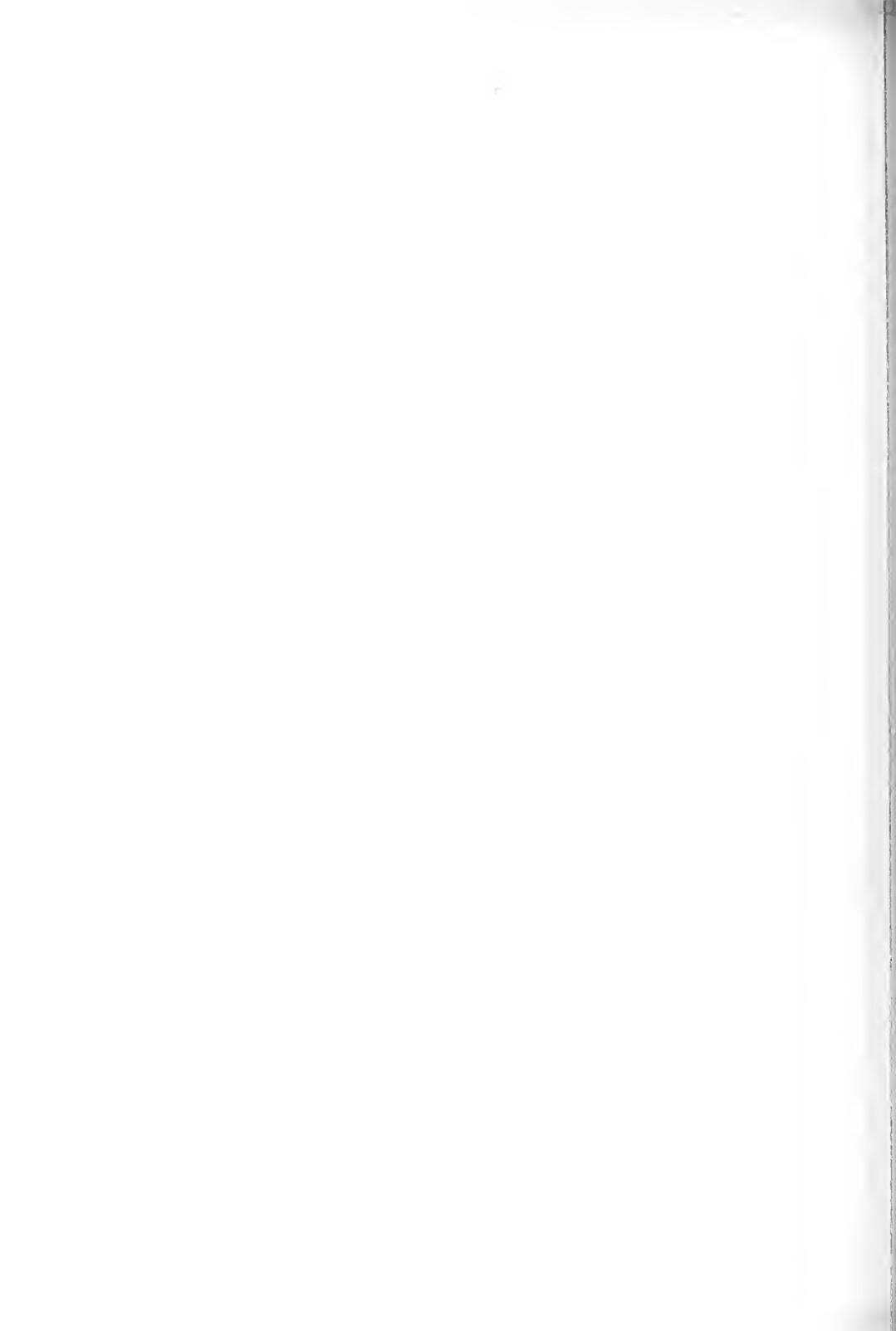
The Queen and the royal party then visited various portions of the Exhibition, in which they showed very great interest, and on leaving drove slowly along the grounds outside the building, where stands for above 8000 spectators had been erected; returning to Holyrood by the same route, which was still massed with a

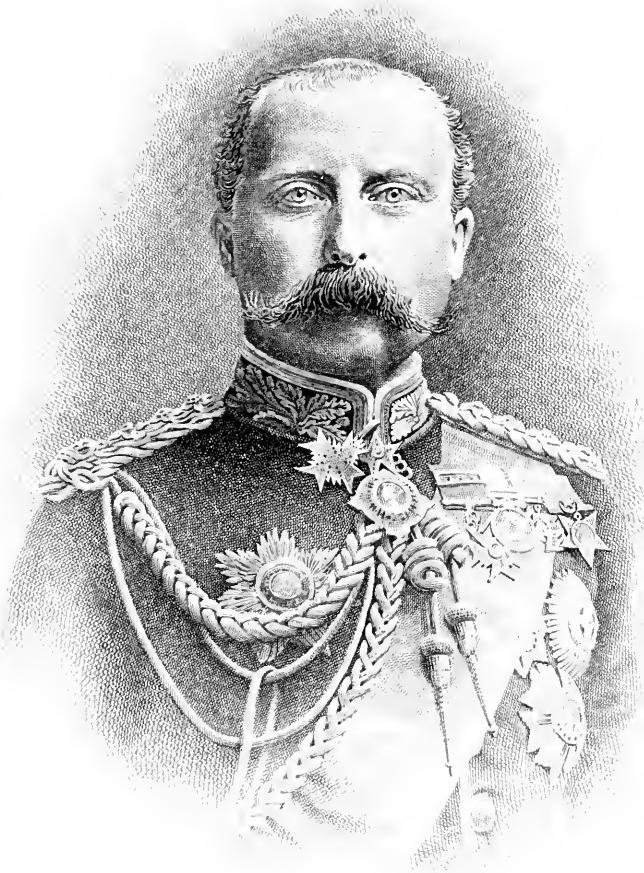
multitude of people. At night the city was brilliantly illuminated, a magnificent effect having been secured in some of the vast and lofty buildings by lighting their windows with myriads of candles. Part of the hills overlooking Holyrood were outlined with lights and coloured fires, and there was a great display of fireworks in the Queen's Park.

On the 4th of September the Duke and Duchess of Connaught returned to India, leaving their two children at Balmoral in the care of her Majesty, who returned to Windsor in the first week of November, and shortly afterwards held an investiture at which orders of various degrees were conferred on a number of gentlemen, many of whom represented the Indian and Colonial interests.

On the 23d of November a son was born to the Princess Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg), who was at Windsor Castle. The infant was baptized on the 18th of December, receiving the name of Alexander Albert. The sponsors were her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alexander of Hesse, Prince Alexander of Bulgaria, and Princess Irene of Hesse. The royal household remained at Windsor till after Christmas, and spent the close of the year at Osborne.







H R H

ARTHUR WILLIAM PATRICK
DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

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from a photo taken in 1890

By Hughes & Mullins Ryde

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CHAPTER IX.

The year 1887. Jubilee of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady. Celebrations and memorials.
At home and abroad.

The year 1887 may be said to have begun with hearty and loyal anticipations of the great celebration which was to make it memorable in our national history.

On the 20th of June her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, would complete the fiftieth year of her reign over the United Kingdom and those colonies, dominions, and dependencies which unite in forming the British Empire,—an empire far more extended, more powerful, and, it may even be said, more united, than when our Queen succeeded to the throne on the 20th of June, 1837.

The reign of no other English monarch has been for so long a period as that already attained by her Majesty, except that of Henry III., which lasted fifty-six years, Edward III., who completed fifty years, and George III., who accomplished nearly sixty years. Happily, too, the reign of our Sovereign Lady has been distinguished in the annals of the world, and in the hearts of her subjects, by a royal example potent in the encouragement of true and unostentatious piety, and simple domestic life. Her people declare to-day in the measured and unexaggerated but weighty words pronounced by Mr. John Bright at Manchester in 1858: “We are prepared to say, that if the throne of England be filled with so much dignity and so much purity as we have known it in our time, and as we know it now to be, we hope that that venerable monarchy may be perpetual.”

Parliament—the second session of the twelfth parliament of the Queen—was opened on the 27th of January by royal commission. The familiar presence of Stafford Northcote was no longer seen in the place which he had, as Lord Iddesleigh, so recently occupied in the House of Lords. His sudden death, on the 12th of February, at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, whither he had gone to confer with Lord Salisbury, had been deeply mourned by the representatives of all political parties, who united in admiring his ability and integrity, and a simple cordial friendliness which was affected by no strain of political difference.

It had been hoped and expected that her Majesty would have been present at the opening of the session, but the parliament of which this was the second session had been opened by her. The speech was read by the lord-chancellor, a very large assembly of the House of Commons and an unusual number of ladies being present on the occasion.

No reference was made in the royal message to the anniversary, the coming celebrations of which were already engaging public attention throughout the British dominions, and among British residents in foreign lands. Even before the close of the year 1886 some preparations had been commenced for the due observance of an occasion which aroused loyal sentiments throughout the empire, and it may be readily understood that the success of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition had greatly contributed to a desire to mark the Jubilee of our Sovereign Lady by forming some lasting institution to represent, in the capital city of the realm, the union and the progress of those vast and varied interests which have to be considered in estimating the resources of the empire.

The Prince of Wales had, for some time previously, con-

templated the establishment of a permanent memorial of the jubilee in the form of a great exhibition or museum of arts, manufacturing industries, and natural productions, which should signalize the continued progress of the empire, and be maintained as the Imperial Institute of the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and India. In this proposal, and in a carefully-considered scheme for the undertaking, his royal highness was supported by a large number of influential persons, many of whom had been associated with him in those successful results which were obtained by the able organization of the previous exhibition. To establish and support such an undertaking it was necessary to appeal to the subjects of the Queen throughout the empire, and especially in Great Britain and in the metropolis, to contribute the necessary funds; and it was understood that her Majesty would regard such contributions as a most satisfactory and acceptable manifestation of loyal interest on the part of those who desired to give national expression to the general sentiment.

As an introductory promotion of the enterprise, a meeting was held on the 12th of January at St. James's Palace, to which a number of influential noblemen and gentlemen had been invited, with the lords-lieutenant, mayors, provosts, and local authorities of the United Kingdom. The organizing committee included Lord Herschell (chairman), Earl of Carnarvon, K.G., Lord Revelstoke, Lord Rothschild, Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P., Sir Henry James, M.P., Sir Henry T. Holland, M.P., Sir John Rose, Mr. H. H. Fowler, M.P., Sir Frederick Leighton (President of the Royal Academy), Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Saul Samuel, Sir Lowthian Bell, Sir Edward Guinness, Sir Ashley Eden, Sir Owen T. Burne, Sir Reginald Hanson (Lord-mayor of London), Mr. J. Pattison Currie, Sir John Staples, Sir Frederick Abel

(organizing secretary), Mr. W. H. Houldsworth, M.P., Mr. J. H. Tritton (chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce), Mr. Nevile Lubbock, Mr. A. Waterhouse. The Prince of Wales, who presided, and was accompanied by his son Prince Albert Victor, addressed the meeting.

His royal highness said they were doubtless aware of the general feeling on the part of the public that some signal proof of the love and loyalty of her Majesty's subjects (throughout her widely-extended empire) should be given to the Queen when she celebrated the fiftieth year of her happy reign. In order to afford to the Queen the fullest satisfaction, the proposed memorial should not merely be personal in its character, but should tend to serve the interests of the entire empire, and to promote a feeling of unity among the whole of her Majesty's subjects. The desire to find a fitting means of drawing our Colonies and India into closer bonds with the mother country, a desire which of late had been clearly expressed, met with the Queen's warmest sympathy. It occurred to him that the recent Colonial and Indian Exhibition, which presented a most successful display of the material resources of the Colonies and India, might present the basis for an institute which should afford a permanent representation of the products and manufactures of the whole of the Queen's dominions. He therefore appointed a committee of eminent men to consider and report to him upon the best means of carrying out this idea. Upon the report of the committee being submitted, and after having given every clause full consideration, it so entirely met with his approval that he accepted all its suggestions, and directed that a copy of that report should be sent to each of those present. His proposals were that the Imperial Institute should be an emblem of the unity of the empire, and should illustrate the resources and capabilities of every section of her Majesty's dominions. By these means every one might become acquainted with the marvellous growth of the Queen's Colonial and Indian possessions during her reign, and be enabled to mark, by the opportunities afforded for contrast, how steadily these possessions have advanced in manufacturing skill and enterprise step by step with

the mother country. It was his hope that the Institute would form a practical means of communication between our colonial settlers and those persons at home who may benefit by emigration. Much information and even instruction might beneficially be imparted to those who needed guidance in respect to emigration. He commended to them as the leading idea, that the Institute should be regarded as a centre for extending knowledge in relation to the industrial resources and commerce of the Queen's dominions. With this view it should be in constant touch, not only with the chief manufacturing districts of this country, but also with all the Colonies and India. Such objects were large in their scope, and must necessarily be so if this Institute was worthily to represent the unity of the empire. Though the Institute did not engage in the direct object of systematic technical education, it might well be the means of promoting it, as its purpose was to extend an exact knowledge of the industrial resources of the empire. It would be a place of study and resort for producers and consumers from the Colonies and India when they visited this country for business or pleasure, and they, as well as the merchants and manufacturers of the United Kingdom, would find in its collections, libraries, conference and intelligence rooms, the means of extending the commerce and of improving the manufacturing industries of the empire. This Institute would be an emblem, as well as a practical exponent, of the community of interests and the unity of feeling throughout the extended dominions of the Queen. From the close relation in which he stood to the Queen, there could be no impropriety in his stating that if her subjects desired, on the occasion of the celebration of her fiftieth year as sovereign of this great empire, to offer her a memorial of their love and loyalty, she would specially value one which would promote the industrial and commercial resources of her dominions in various parts of the world, and which would be expressive of that unity and co-operation which her Majesty desired should prevail among all classes and races of her extended empire.

A resolution recommending the establishment of such an Institute was proposed by Lord Spencer and seconded by the

Lord-provost of Edinburgh, and was unanimously adopted by the large and representative meeting. Viscount Hampden, in moving that an appeal be made to the subjects of the Queen throughout her Majesty's dominions to give a generous support to the establishment and maintenance of such Imperial Institute, said:—

They must bear in mind the large extent of the dominions of the Queen, beginning with Canada on the west, with India and Australasia in the east, with the Cape in the south, and with islands in almost every sea. The extent of her Majesty's dominions surpassed even that of the old empire of Rome. It had been said that in area the Queen's realm covered one-fifth of the habitable globe. They had no very certain statistics with regard to the population subject to the Queen's sceptre, but he should be within the mark if he put it as upwards of 300,000,000 souls. These figures showed at once the magnitude of the responsibility of this great empire. The resolution which he had the honour to propose made an appeal to all the subjects of her Majesty in these wide dominions, and he was persuaded that distance did not affect the loyalty of the Queen's subjects. They would find as much loyalty at the antipodes, at the extremities of the empire, as they found even in that chamber.

The proposal, seconded by the Lord-mayor of York, was unanimously agreed to; and after the Lord-mayor of London (Sir Reginald Hanson) had proposed a vote of thanks to the Prince of Wales, and this had been enthusiastically received, the meeting terminated. On the same day the Lord-mayor presided at an influential and largely-attended meeting in the Egyptian Hall at the Mansion House, where eminent representatives of science, art, and commerce warmly supported the scheme. Lord Granville, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Mundella, Lord Herschell, Professor Huxley, and Sir Charles Tupper proposed or seconded the resolutions. Lord Iddesleigh was to have been present, but

at the very time that he should have been on his way he had been taken with the illness which proved fatal before he could be removed.

A committee was formed at the Mansion House for representing the supporters of the Institute in the city, and when the scheme was made known numerous provincial municipalities held meetings, where it was determined to signalize the celebration of her Majesty's Jubilee by contributing to its funds. The city companies and various other public and representative bodies and numerous mercantile firms and bankers also added to the sums promised. Meetings continued to be held, the organizing committee was enlarged, and preparations were made for realizing an amount which would entitle the promoters of the enterprise to include the laying of the foundation-stone of the building among the ceremonies performed by her Majesty soon after the chief celebration of the Jubilee year. Meanwhile the general outline of the management of the proposed scheme was published as follows:—

The General Council to consist of 100 members.

Ten members to be nominated by the Queen. Forty-five members to represent the United Kingdom and the isles in the British seas. Thirty to represent the colonies. Fifteen to represent the Indian Empire.

Ex-officio members: the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Governor of the Bank of England, the Lord-mayor of London, the Lord-provost of Edinburgh, the Lord-mayor of Dublin.

For the purpose of electing representatives of the commerce and industries of the different parts of the United Kingdom, &c., the country to be divided into districts (estimated at seventeen), and one such representative to be chosen in each district by the mayors of the municipal corporations in such district at a meeting held for that purpose.

Three members to be nominated by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, and one by the London Chamber of Commerce.

Four representatives of agriculture to be nominated by the Royal Agricultural Society, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the Highland Society, and the Royal Dublin Agricultural Society.

One member to be nominated by each of the following societies, institutions, and associations:—The Royal Society, Royal Society of Edinburgh, Royal Irish Academy, Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, Institution of Civil Engineers, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Iron and Steel Institute, the Chemical Societies, the Society of Telegraph Engineers and Electricians, the City and Guilds Institute of Technical Education, Royal United Service Institution, the Royal Academy, Mining Association of Great Britain, the Trades'-union Congress, the National Miners' Union.

The Colonial section of the Council to be nominated as follows:—Canada, Dominion and Provinces, and Newfoundland, 10.

Australian Colonies, viz.: New South Wales, 2; Victoria, 2; South Australia, 2; Queensland, 2; Tasmania, 2; total, 10. New Zealand, 2; Cape Colony, 2; Crown Colonies, 6.

Early in March the Queen left Windsor, where investitures and state receptions had been held, and came to London before visiting Birmingham on the 23d, to lay the foundation-stone of the new Law Courts. It may be mentioned that while in town her Majesty witnessed a private performance of the hippodrome then just opened at "Olympia" in South Kensington, and was exceedingly pleased with the performance, and especially with some very beautiful ponies and other young animals which were afterwards seen by the royal visitors. Her Majesty, who returned to Windsor after holding a drawing-room at Buckingham Palace on the 18th, was suffering from a rather severe cold. The weather became stormy, and on the night of the 22d not only were the splendid decorations which adorned the streets of Birmingham threatened with damage by the violent wind and

rain, but it was thought possible that the Queen might feel it impracticable to traverse in a slow procession under a heavy downpour of rain, the five miles of thoroughfares that had been prepared with numbers of stands and platforms, and made magnificent with flags, festoons, and banks of flowers, superb trophies, and triumphal arches, which combined displays of the artistic skill and the inventive handicraft that unite to make Birmingham a representative workshop of the world. But her Majesty had intimated that though a severe cold would make it necessary for her to observe some precautions it would not deter her from fulfilling her promise, and at half-past ten on the morning of the 23d the royal party left Windsor Castle in the midst of a gale which, with gusty determination, had blown to tatters the storm-flag on the top of the Round Tower. Happily at that very time the weather in Birmingham changed. The rain ceased, the wind fell to a calm, and the sunshine broke through the clouds, and not only glorified but dried the stands which extended for about two miles, and the streets, which were filled from roadways to roofs by a vast multitude of more than half a million of people, two-thirds of whom unmistakably belonged to the "working-classes," who thronged the barriers and every point where they could obtain standing room to see the Queen. At a quarter past one the royal train arrived at Small Heath Station. The suite in attendance on her Majesty, who was accompanied by Prince Henry of Battenberg and the Princess Beatrice, consisted of the Duchess of Buccleuch (mistress of the robes), the Countess of Erroll (lady-in-waiting), the Earl of Lathom (lord-chamberlain), General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., Major A. J. Bigge, C.B., and Colonel the Hon. W. Carington (equerries in waiting). The Right Hon. Henry Matthews was in attendance on her Majesty as secretary

of state for the home department, and at the station the Queen was received by Mr. and Mrs. Martineau, Mayor and Mayoress of Birmingham; Lord Leigh, lieutenant of the county; the High Sheriff; Mr. Newton, the recorder; Mr. J. S. Dugdale, M.P., Q.C.; the town clerk; and Major-general C. F. Daniell, commanding northern district, and staff. A guard of honour of the 1st battalion of the York and Lancaster Regiment was mounted at the railway-station. The mayor and mayoress and municipal officers were presented to her Majesty, who accepted from Mrs. Martineau a handsome bouquet of Marshal Niel roses and Parma violets. For a moment the group stood still, and were photographed by Mr. Collier, by royal command. Then the two attendant Scotch gillies brought the wraps to the royal carriage—drawn by four bays—and her Majesty started on one of the most enthusiastic of her many public processions. The Princess Beatrice sat beside the Queen, and opposite were the Duchess of Buccleuch and Prince Henry of Battenberg, the prince wearing the Isle of Wight volunteer uniform. The Chief-constable of Birmingham, Major Bigge and Colonel the Hon. W. Carington (equerries), General Sir Henry Ponsonby, and General Daniell, commanding the district, accompanied the carriage, which was preceded and followed by an escort of the 15th Hussars. In the second carriage were the Countess of Erroll, lady-in-waiting, the Hon. Lady Biddulph, lady-in-waiting to Princess Beatrice; the lord-chamberlain and the home secretary.

A squadron of Warwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and the volunteers as they were relieved from the duty of keeping the streets, followed the cortége along the route, which was lined with flags, to Small Heath Park. One of the most striking parts of the reception was the assemblage of about 15,000 school children in a clear semicircle of a mile long, each school being kept

distinct with the teachers standing behind it, and every school singing the national anthem, which, having commenced the minute it was known that her Majesty had arrived at the station, they continued, or rather resumed at intervals, according to the fancy of each school, leaving off to give shrill bursts of cheering directly the Queen appeared, the one exception being the poor little deaf-mutes of the school at Edgbaston, who, however, unrolled a crimson banner of "Welcome" as their Sovereign Lady passed, and received from her a gracious gesture of acknowledgement and thanks. The journey to the town-hall occupied an hour, and her Majesty's approach was heralded by a flourish of trumpets. A distinguished assembly awaited her Majesty in the hall, and a choir occupied the balconies. A procession having been formed the mayor conducted her Majesty to the dais, and the audience having returned in respectful silence the royal bows the national anthem was performed, and the recorder then stood forward and read an address from the Corporation of Birmingham expressing loyal welcome and affection, referring to her Majesty's visit thirty years before with the Prince Consort, and concluding with earnest thanks for her presence in the jubilee year of her glorious reign, for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of the building designed for the administration of justice in the midst of a great community.

At the mention of the Prince Consort's name the Queen bowed her head, and at the conclusion of the address the mayor handed the volume to her Majesty, who passed it to the lord-chamberlain. Then, speaking amidst perfect stillness, in a clear, well-modulated voice, and occasionally raising her head to emphasize a word, her Majesty read this reply:

"I receive with great pleasure your loyal and dutiful address, and I fully appreciate the cordial welcome which my people of Birmingham

have given me. I have observed with much satisfaction the vast improvements carried out by the energy of the corporation since my last visit to Birmingham with my late beloved husband in 1858. I have seen with admiration the designs for the noble building which the corporation intend to be erected, and which appear to be in every way worthy of the high purpose it is intended to fulfil by giving convenience and dignity to the administration of justice in your midst. I thank you very heartily for your affectionate welcome and reception of myself and children. During the long and eventful period, now extending over fifty years, through which my reign has continued, the loyalty and affection of my faithful people have been a constant source of support in difficulty and sorrow, and consolation in affliction. I pray God that prosperity and happiness may ever attend the labours of this vast and industrious community."

After the presentation of Mr. Alderman Avery and Mr. Alderman Manton (the mover and seconder of the address), the deputy mayor (Mr. Alderman Cooke), the coroner (Mr. Henry Hawkes), and the stipendiary magistrate (Mr. T. C. S. Kynnersley), addresses were handed to her Majesty from the Royal Society of Artists by Mr. J. A. Chatwin, vice-president; the Queen's Hospital, by Lord Leigh; the Birmingham and Midland Institute, by Mr. G. H. Johnstone, vice-president. The Queen and Princess Beatrice then sat down while the Hallelujah Chorus, from Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," was sung by the Festival Choral Society, conducted by Mr. W. C. Stockley; and her Majesty afterwards signified her desire to speak to Mr. Chamberlain, ex-president of the Board of Trade, who was standing not far from the steps of the dais. After a brief conversation with that gentleman, and a few words with Lord and Lady Leigh, Lord Bradford, and some of the ladies near her, the Queen and the royal party left the hall amidst a great outburst of applause, and adjourned to luncheon, Miss Martineau, the daughter of the

mayor, presenting the Princess Beatrice with a bouquet of orchids and lilies. After luncheon the royal procession was re-formed, and at four o'clock reached the pavilion where the ceremony of the day was to be performed. The route lay through some of the principal streets, which were kept by infantry. In New Street, opposite King Edward's School, where a volunteer artillery guard of honour was mounted, a Latin address was handed to the Queen by the head boy, H. Nicol, and Miss Jones, the head girl of the High School, presented her Majesty with a bouquet. Both offerings were graciously acknowledged, but there was no time to respond to the address, to which, however, a written reply was handed to the head-master, the Rev. H. R. Vardy, just as replies had been made to the written addresses handed to her Majesty at the town-hall. By four o'clock the royal cortége arrived at the pavilion, where a select but numerous concourse had long been listening to an excellent selection of music by the Grenadier Guards' band, conducted by Mr. Godfrey.

As the notes of the national anthem sounded the royal procession entered; the appearance of the Queen being greeted with unbounded applause. The platform was raised, and the circle of brickwork, with the great stone suspended above it and the royal party grouped beyond it, formed a striking picture. The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Worcester, in academic costume and with his scarlet and pink hood, offered prayer. The silver trowel having been presented to the Queen by the mayor, the builder assisted to lower the stone. A pause was made while the Queen inclosed newspapers and a collection of all the silver coins of the day, including a silver penny, in a glass bottle, which she placed in the cavity of the base and covered with a slide of lead. These coins were specially struck for this

occasion, no general 1887 issue having yet been made. Then the Queen spread three trowelfuls of mortar on the slab, and laid them well, the practical work being completed by a working mason in white, wearing his apron. The stone duly lowered, the Queen struck it thrice with the ivory mallet, and the architects, Mr. Aston Webb and Mr. Edward Ingress Bell, having been presented, the band burst out with the "Priests' March," from "Athalie," and the audience rose to their feet and gave three hearty cheers, to which her Majesty bowed her acknowledgments, and the foundation of the Law Courts was officially established.

The royal party reached Snow Hill at half-past four, and after expressing her gratification at the reception and at the success of the proceedings her Majesty returned to Windsor, arriving at the castle at about seven o'clock.

The Prince of Wales had left London for Berlin, where on the 22d of March the ninetieth birthday of the German emperor was celebrated with much magnificence, the sovereigns of Europe being, in most cases, represented by the heirs apparent to their thrones. His royal highness returned soon after the observance, as many public duties awaited him, and the Queen had been advised, after the fatigues of ceremonial receptions and in view of the jubilee celebrations, to recruit her strength by a few days' repose at Cannes and Aix-les-Bains. On the 29th her Majesty with Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg left Windsor for Portsmouth, where they embarked for Cherbourg and thence travelled to Cannes. On the journey by railway some delay was occasioned by the discovery that the wheel of one of the carriages was on fire, but it was extinguished in time to prevent any serious mischief. On the 6th of April her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg, left Cannes for

Aix-les-Bains, where the Villa Mottet had been prepared for her residence in complete retirement. On the 15th the Princess Louise arrived there, and shortly afterwards Prince Henry of Battenberg on his return from a journey in Italy. Many pleasant excursions were made by the royal party, and the Queen, just before her return on the 29th of April, had an opportunity of visiting the monastery of the Grande Chartreuse, noted not less for the famous liqueur which is manufactured there, than for the rigorous simplicity of its rule and the seclusion of its inmates. Her Majesty and the royal party were permitted to make the visit by special authorization from the pope, and were courteously received by the prior. It was understood that the rule forbidding the presence of women in the monastery or its precincts, except in the case of reigning sovereigns, had been relaxed by the pope in this instance, as it had been only once before, in the case of the visit of the Empress of Brazil.

On the 30th of April the commissioners of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of the previous year held a meeting at Marlborough House for closing the accounts of that exhibition, the Prince of Wales presiding. The number of attendances had been no fewer than 5,550,745, and of this number a large proportion had been admitted under schemes in which the Prince took a deep personal interest, by means of which admission was granted to provincial and metropolitan artisans, with their wives and families, at greatly reduced rates. The Prince said it might safely be asserted that a vast amount of public good had arisen from the holding of that exhibition. No one could have failed to notice the earnest attention paid by all classes of the visitors to the contents of the exhibition; and the instruction which was derived from an examination of the varied objects displayed

therein could not but tend to a better knowledge of the outlying portions of the empire among the inhabitants of the mother country. The accounts showed a surplus of £35,238, 7s. 8d., and it was resolved to grant £5964, 11s. 5d. to the council of the Inventions Exhibition of 1885 to enable them to close their accounts, and £4270, 16s. 3d. to the chairmen of the executive committees of the other exhibitions to meet unforeseen contingencies. It was then decided to transfer the residue of £25,000 to the funds of the Imperial Institute.

Without doubt the earnest response which the people of the Colonies had made to the proposal to hold the Exhibition of 1886 had not only ensured its remarkable success, but had increased and intensified the public interest in the question of establishing some well-considered assimilation of the well-being of the whole empire, by an organization that would unite their interests both for defence and for the mutual support of beneficial legislation and social institutions. Among a large number, perhaps the majority, of experienced and influential men, who could justly claim to represent the desire of the people of the Colonies, it was contended that this could best be effected by adopting a scheme of imperial federation; but, at any rate, the pith and principle of what would be meant by federation were completely recognized, and the time was auspicious for a Colonial conference to be held in this country for the purpose of seriously discussing some proposals which had already been under consideration. It had been distinctly foreseen that the jubilee year, when a number of the delegates and responsible representatives of various Colonies who had attended the Exhibition would still be here, or might be expected to return for the celebrations, would be a time eminently suitable for the conference, and at the end of November, 1886, a despatch had been sent by the secretary

of state for the colonies to the governors of colonies under responsible governments, and a circular was also despatched to the governor of colonies not possessing responsible government, reminding them that in the Queen's speech on the prorogation of parliament reference was made to her Majesty's Colonial and Indian possessions in the following terms: "I have observed with much satisfaction the interest which, in an increasing degree, is evinced by the people of this country in the welfare of their Colonial and Indian fellow subjects; and I am led to the conviction that there is on all sides a growing desire to draw closer, in every practicable way, the bonds which unite the various portions of the empire. I have authorized communications to be entered into with the principal colonial governments with a view to the fuller consideration of matters of common interest."

Those promised communications having engaged the attention of the ministry, it was decided that the Queen should be advised to summon a conference to meet in London in the early part of 1887, at which representatives of the principal colonial governments should be invited to assemble, for the discussion of those questions which appeared more particularly to demand attention. The conference commenced in April (1887), and Canada, the Australian Colonies, the Cape Colony, Newfoundland, and Natal were represented, but there was no special representation of the Crown Colonies, though it was understood that colonists from those places who happened to be in London and could give information might be requested to attend. The first of these imperial conferences was held at the foreign office on the 4th of April under the presidency of Sir Henry Holland, who, after observing that the assembling together in this country of leading colonial statesmen and representatives of Greater

Britain to discuss matters of imperial interest was the fittest of all the memorials of her Majesty's Jubilee, went on to speak of the matters to be brought before the conference. Besides questions of Colonial defence, the subjects proposed to be dealt with included postal rates, the marriage laws, provisions of the Colonial Loans Acts, enlargement of the powers of trustees to invest in Colonial stocks, the expediency of taking the census of 1891 on the same day and in the same manner in all parts of the empire, and the exemption from probate or succession duty in one part of the empire of property owned by a British subject in another part. Successive meetings were held, at which the discussions were conducted with the greatest amity and good-will, and the sittings did not conclude until the second week in May; one of the latest resolutions which was passed at the meeting on the 6th of May recommending an addition to her Majesty's title, which would include the Colonies and Dependencies with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. On the 4th of May her Majesty received the delegates from the Colonies in the White Drawing-room at Windsor Castle, the Right Hon. Sir Henry Holland, K.C.M.G., presenting the following gentlemen, who handed to her Majesty addresses from their respective Colonies:—

Sir Robert Thorburn, K.C.M.G. (Premier), Sir Ambrose Shea, K.C.M.G., from Newfoundland.

Sir Alexander Campbell, K.C.M.G. (Lieut.-governor of Ontario), Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., from Canada.

Sir Patrick Jennings, K.C.M.G. (late Premier), Sir Robert Wisdom, K.C.M.G., Sir Saul Samuel, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Agent-general), from New South Wales.

Mr. John Stokell Dodds (late Attorney-general), Mr. Adye Douglas (Agent-general), from Tasmania.

Sir Thomas Upington, K.C.M.G. (Attorney-general), Mr. Jan Hendrick

Hofmeyr, Sir Charles Mills, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Agent-general), from the Cape of Good Hope.

Sir Jan William Downer, K.C.M.G. (Premier), Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Agent-general), from South Australia.

Sir Francis Dillon Bell, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Agent-general), Sir William Fitzherbert, K.C.M.G. (Speaker of Legislative Council), from New Zealand.

Mr. Alfred Deakin (Chief Secretary), Sir James Lorimer, K.C.M.G. (Minister of Colonial Defence), Mr. James Service (late Premier), from Victoria.

Sir Samuel Griffith, K.C.M.G. (Premier), Sir James Garrick, K.C.M.G. (Agent-general), from Queensland.

Mr. John Forrest, C.M.G. (Commissioner of Crown Lands), Mr. Septimus Burt, Q.C., from Western Australia.

Mr. John Robinson, from Natal.

Sir Augustus Addersly, K.C.M.G., from Bahamas, and Mr. A. P. Marryat, from Trinidad.

An address was read and presented to the Queen by Sir Robert Thorburn, premier of Newfoundland, on behalf of the Colonial Conference, all the representatives being present, in which, after saying that the meeting for the conference gave them the opportunity of approaching her Majesty with humble, united, and earnest congratulations, he continued:

"Your Majesty has witnessed the number of your colonial subjects of European descent increase from under 2,000,000 to 9,000,000, and of Asiatic race in your Indian Empire from 96,000,000 to 254,000,000, and of other peoples in your Colonies and Dependencies from 2,000,000 to 7,000,000.

"The area now governed by your Majesty in India is 1,380,000 square miles, and in your Colonies 7,000,000 square miles. The increase of trade, of shipping, and of revenue has been in proportion to that of population, and no one in your wide dominions is subject to any other sway than that of even and impartial law. Your Majesty's reign has, under Divine Providence, endured for half a century; and amidst revolu-

tions and changes of dynasty and of systems of government in other countries, the principles of the laws of your predecessors for a thousand years still afford your subjects that safety and prosperity, and the empire that stability, which claim the admiration of the world.

"We beg to assure your Majesty of the continued loyalty and devotion of your colonial subjects; and we humbly pray that your happy reign may still be prolonged, and that your Majesty's throne may remain established in the land in justice and righteousness for generations to come."

Her Majesty in reply said:

"I accept with much satisfaction the loyal and dutiful address which you have presented to me on behalf of my colonial subjects, and it has given me great pleasure to receive in person here to-day the representatives of so many portions of my Dominions.

"I have observed with the liveliest interest the steady advance of my Colonies in wealth, population, and good government. This has been a constant and increasing source of gratification to me during the fifty years, on the completion of which you now offer congratulations; and nothing can give me greater pride and pleasure than to know that the loyalty and affection of my subjects in distant lands have developed along with their prosperity and success."

In addition to the addresses the Queen was presented with valuable gifts from Natal and the Cape. The address from Natal was inclosed in a unique cabinet composed of the woods and native silver of the colony. The casket from the Cape was of wrought gold, studded with Cape diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires, and other precious stones. A separate address from the Canadian government, and one from New Zealand, was sent at a later date.

In speaking of the gifts presented on this occasion it may be remarked that from the very beginning of the Jubilee year, and, indeed, at a long anterior date, suitable and appropriate

presents—many of them sumptuous and costly, many of them plain and humble, but all of them significant of loyalty, admiration, and affection—were being prepared in the various parts of the world, to offer to her Majesty as memorials of the Jubilee of her reign. Great potentates and princes of foreign lands, men and women of distinction in various countries, besides nobles, ladies, soldiers, sailors, artists, mechanics, peasants, work-people, and labourers, among her own loving subjects, were uniting in some way to send tokens of regard, and one of the most appropriate and most widely recognized associations for securing a suitable and lasting memorial had already enlisted the most numerous interest in the kingdom. “The Women’s Jubilee Offering” was to be some worthy and acceptable memorial and gift which should be acquired for the Queen by the contributions of the women and girls of the United Kingdom; and by a thoroughly organized plan, under the direction of an executive committee representing nearly all the women of title and distinction, and numbers who were also women of well-known attainments in the country. Trustees and treasurers were appointed, a practical working scheme was adopted, and circular letters were widely distributed, with printed leaflets for general circulation, stating the object of the association, and asking women and girls of the United Kingdom, of all ages, ranks, classes, beliefs, and opinions, to join in one common offering to their Queen, in token of loyalty, affection, and reverence towards the only female sovereign in history who, for fifty years, had borne the toils and troubles of public life, known the sorrows that fall to all women, and as wife, mother, widow, and ruler held up a bright and spotless example to her own and all other nations. Contributions were to range from the minimum of one penny to the maximum of one pound, and the

nature of the offering was to be decided by the Queen herself, and the names of all contributors to be presented to her Majesty.

While the Queen was preparing to receive the delegates from the Colonies, the Prince, with the Princess of Wales, was engaged in opening what was fitly called the Jubilee Exhibition at Manchester, which had in the previous year been promoted for the purpose of illustrating the progress made in arts and manufactures during the Victorian era. A guarantee fund of £133,331 had been raised, and on an area of land, which included the Botanical Gardens, and covered thirty-three acres, a vast building of the well-known construction of glass and iron had been erected, its central dome cleverly decorated with frescoes representing various industries, and the main building divided into sections filled with objects of deepest interest in industry, science, and manufactures, while the department devoted to art contained such a magnificent loan collection of paintings representing the modern school as will probably never be seen again.

The Prince and Princess were the guests of Lord Egerton at Tatton Hall, and on the morning for the opening of the Exhibition drove, with their host, through Tatton Park in a landau drawn by four bays and attended by outriders to Knutsford, whence they were to make the short journey to Manchester by special train.

At Knutsford one of the most interesting events of the day occurred. The people of this quaint old-world place had for some years previously revived ancient May-day sports and customs, and in front of the town-hall the May-queen, Miss Mary Ellen Howarth, was seated on her throne, attired in cream satin and lace, her retinue, consisting of six maids of

honour, two pages, a crown-bearer, sceptre-bearer, a number of miniature beef-eaters, court clowns, and other characters, who attended her as she advanced along a crimson-carpeted approach to the royal carriage, and presented the Princess with a bouquet composed principally of the beautiful Orchid *Odontoglossum Alexandra*. The Princess spoke to the little maiden for a few minutes, and Lord Egerton then introduced Mr. Nicholls, the chairman of the festival committee, with whom the Prince and Princess conversed about the revival of the old May-day celebrations. The Princess readily acceded to the request that she would witness the crowning of the May-queen; and the crown-bearer then advanced and placed the crown upon the head of the mimic sovereign amidst much cheering.

The committee having obtained the Prince's permission to add the title of Royal to the Knutsford May-day sports, the carriage was driven onward to the station amidst renewed applause. The Prince and Princess were accompanied by Lady Sefton and Lord Egerton of Tatton in the train, which steamed out of Knutsford on its way to Manchester, amidst the cheers of the crowd assembled outside the station. The Prince had decided to make a procession through the streets, which were crowded at every point by an enthusiastic and demonstrative, but orderly and good-humoured, population. The royal suite included the Marquis of Lothian, the Earl and Countess of Lathom, the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Herschell, the Earl of Arran, the Earl of Sandwich, the Honourable Mr. North and Mrs. Dalrymple, Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., and the Dowager-marchioness of Tweeddale. The first visit was paid to the town-hall, the façade of which, like other places in the town, had been handsomely decorated with flags, trophies, flowers, and rich drapery. Amidst the strains of the national

anthem, the ringing of bells, and cheering so tremendous that its outbursts almost drowned all other sounds, the Prince and Princess entered the hall, and were conducted up the grand staircase to the principal chamber, where an address was read by the recorder, Mr. West, Q.C., thanking them for their presence, speaking in loyal and congratulatory terms of her Majesty the Queen, and the occasion on which the honour of this visit had been conferred on Manchester, and referring to the improvement made during the thirty years that had passed since her Majesty was last there; one of those improvements being the town-hall itself, "in which are transacted the local affairs of nearly half a million of industrious and self-governing people."

The Prince of Wales replied in earnest and appropriate words, in which, thanking his hearers for the loyal address, he said it had been a source of much gratification to the Queen to receive assurance of unfaltering attachment to her throne and person from all parts of the empire on the attainment of the fiftieth year of her reign.

The assembly at the town-hall was peculiarly representative, as it included the mayors and civic authorities of Liverpool, Oldham, Bolton, Rochdale, Stockport, Bury, Wigan, Warrington, Ashton-under-Lyne, Southport, Over-Darwen, Stalybridge, Bacup, and Chorley, as well as members of parliament for Lancashire constituencies, and of course a large number of ladies. After the reply of the Prince the Bishop of Manchester, who was in attendance in crimson robe, raised his college cap and heartily called for three cheers for the Prince and Princess, one more for "the children," and three for the Queen, all of which were given in a manner that accentuated the loyal terms of the address.

The procession to the Exhibition was much enlarged by the number of distinguished persons who joined it at the town-hall, and as the route was through the principal streets to Old Trafford, the spectacle of the cortége and of the enormous concourse of people was very striking. The royal reception-room at the gates of the Exhibition building had been sumptuously prepared, and there the royal party was met by Sir Joseph Lee, the chairman, the executive committee, and the chief officials; Mr. Bapty, the general manager; and Mr. Gillies, the secretary. The first visit was to the admirable reproduction of a street in "Old Manchester," in the fashion of the "Old London" which was such an attraction at the exhibition at South Kensington; and then followed luncheon in the palm-house in the gardens; the only toast being "The Queen." The opening ceremony took place in that part of the nave of the building known as the Music-room. The body of the nave and the sides were filled with seats, and the orchestra was crowded with choristers. Mr. Hallé's orchestra was in its place in front of the organ. In front of the platform a dais was erected. The procession passed along the grand avenue under the dome and through the Industrial Design section to the dais. The national anthem having been performed with magnificent effect, first by the orchestra and then by Madame Albani and the full chorus, Sir Joseph Lee presented the address of the executive committee. It contained the following passage:—

"Our hope in entering upon it was to celebrate in a manner worthy of the occasion the completion of the fiftieth year of her Majesty's happy, glorious, and memorable reign. To the greatness and the power of the English people, the teeming, industrial population of this district contributes no mean share, and it has been our endeavour to illustrate to the best of our ability its resources, and at the same time to present in this

great Exhibition a full illustration of the progress of the arts and manufactures of the United Kingdom."

The address was read by Sir Joseph Lee, and was contained in a magnificently bound and illustrated volume. Surrounding the dais were the party from Tatton and Sir Frederic Leighton, the Bishop of Salford, Sir Edward Watkin, Lord Wharncliffe, Lord Crawford, Sir H. de Trafford, Principal Greenwood, Mr. Titus Salt, Sir Henry Keppell, Sir C. Tennant, the Lord-provost of Glasgow, and a numerous representation of Lancashire institutions and municipalities. After having read the address Sir Joseph presented it to the Prince of Wales, with a gold master-key of the Exhibition. The choir sang the "Old Hundredth," the Bishop of Manchester offered prayer; and the 150th Psalm, "O praise God in His holiness," set to music specially composed for this occasion by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., was sung by Madame Albani and the choir.

The Prince of Wales, in replying to the address, said:

"The illustrations which you have collected of engineering and chemical industry, and the products of manufacture and useful toil, afford ample testimony to the skill and ingenuity and steady perseverance of the inhabitants of this district, and prove how justly they hold a high and an honourable place in the industrial ranks of the empire. The collection of natural products and manufactures of Ireland, and the gratifying display of English works of art, add much to the interest and value of this exhibition, in which I recognize a worthy mark of your desire to do honour to an occasion so auspicious as the celebration of the fiftieth year of her Majesty's reign."

The Prince, in the name of the Queen, then declared the exhibition open, a fanfare of trumpets was given, and a *fou de joie* fired. The proceedings closed with a procession through the different departments, while the "Lobigesang" or "Hymn

of Praise" was rendered by the full orchestra and chorus, with solos by Madame Albani and Mr. Edward Lloyd. When the royal party left the building Beethoven's "Hallelujah Chorus," from "The Mount of Olives," was sung. A special train was in waiting at the Exhibition Station to convey their royal highnesses and suite to Tatton, leaving at five o'clock. At night the streets and public buildings of Manchester were brilliantly illuminated.

On the 9th of May her Majesty went from Windsor to Buckingham Palace, there to receive a large deputation representing the corporation of the city of London, who claimed the ancient privilege of presenting loyal congratulations to the sovereign. The deputation consisted of the lord-mayor (Sir Reginald Hanson), the court of aldermen, and 170 members of the common council, the sheriffs—Mr. Alderman Isaacs and Colonel Kirby, the recorder, the town-clerk, common serjeant, comptroller, remembrancer, solicitor, secondary and under sheriffs. The deputation went in state procession in carriages, headed by the city marshal and the lord-mayor attended by the sword and mace bearers. At Buckingham Palace the corridors were lined by the corps of gentlemen-at-arms and yeomen of the guard, and the deputation, after assembling in the picture-gallery, was received by her Majesty in the throne-room. The Queen, whose appearance betokened excellent health, was attired in black silk trimmed with lace, and wore the riband of the order of the Garter and several decorations. Standing in front of the throne on a raised dais, and attended by Viscount Cross and lords and ladies in waiting, her Majesty received the deputation, who approached with the usual reverences, the lord-mayor being in the centre, the sword and mace being carried reversed in the royal presence. Sir Thomas

Chambers, recorder of London, read a loyal address, congratulating her Majesty and praying that the Divine blessing might be continued to her Majesty and the realm; and the lord-mayor kneeling, having presented the address, her Majesty in a clear voice read a reply, in which she said:

"My Lord-mayor and Gentlemen,—I thank you sincerely for your renewed assurances of loyalty and attachment to my throne and person. It gives me great satisfaction, in looking back on the past history of my reign, to recall how much its prosperity is owing, under God, to the sound sense and good feeling of my subjects, and to the sympathy which has united the throne and the people. I trust that, by the Divine blessing, this cordial sympathy may continue unbroken, and that I shall always find, as heretofore, your ancient and illustrious corporation, in common with all my other faithful subjects, zealous in every public and private effort to promote the happiness and welfare of the realm."

The Queen then handed her reply to the lord-mayor, who, having kissed hands, presented the mover (Mr. Henry Hicks) and the seconder (Mr. Alderman Lawrence) of the address, with two of the senior aldermen, Sir Robert Carden and Sir Thomas Gabriel, who also kissed hands. The deputation then withdrew, and returned to Guildhall.

After the corporation had retired her Majesty received a smaller deputation representing the lieutenants of the city of London, for whom the lord-mayor presented an address, to which a gracious reply was given, the mover and seconder kissing hands. Her Majesty then drove out to visit the Duchess of Cambridge at St. James's Palace. Crowds of people remained for the greater part of the day about the approaches to Buckingham Palace in hope of seeing the Queen, who passed along Pall Mall amidst loyal and cordial demonstrations. Her Majesty had several engagements to fulfil during

her brief stay at Buckingham Palace, where on the day of her arrival a court had been held for the reception of the Maharajah and Maharanee of Kuch Behar and the Maharajah Sir Pertab Sing, before the arrival of the civic deputation. On the next day her Majesty held a drawing-room, which was attended by a very numerous and brilliant company; and on the following morning made a private visit to Westminster Abbey. The Queen, who was received by Dean Bradley and the officials of the Abbey, inspected the various alterations and arrangements which were being made for the forthcoming Jubilee celebration service; the dean, the lord-chamberlain (Lord Lathom), to whose department the arrangements officially belong, Mr. Plunket, and Sir H. Ponsonby Fane conducting her Majesty over the Abbey, and explaining all details. Her Majesty, after making a few suggestions and expressing her pleasure with the proposed plan of the ceremony, paid a visit to the grave of Dean Stanley before returning to Buckingham Palace.

In the afternoon her Majesty, with the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, attended by the Duchess of Athole and Sir Henry and Lady Ponsonby, with Colonel Gardiner and Sir Henry Ewart as equerries, left Buckingham Palace to return to Windsor, but drove through Earl's Court and West Kensington, the Queen having some curiosity to see the remarkable exhibition called the "Wild West," in which Indians, "Cowboys," Californians, and others went through performances illustrative of Indian and prairie life under the direction of Colonel W. F. Cody (popularly called "Buffalo Bill"), and in connection with an American exhibition which had been opened in the building occupying part of the large space of ground where the Indian camp had been pitched, with a pictured background of the Rocky Mountains. The performances here—the

display of horsemanship, of Indian, Mexican, and Cowboy racing, of skilled rifle-shooting by two young ladies of California, and of various picturesque feats and scenes, including the attacks by Indians on the Deadwood Coach and the isolated hut on an imaginary *ranch*, and their repulse by the Cowboys—had for some days been attracting half the world of fashion in London. The Queen, who was much entertained, graciously sent for the accomplished markswomen and complimented them, afterwards giving a brief interview to Ogila-sa, the chief of the Sioux, in which the sententious red man was gratified by a few kind words from the “great white Queen,” and replied to them with thanks and grim smiles before he stalked away, to give place to the squaws, who had come scampering up with their brown papooses on their backs at the request of her Majesty, who contrived by kindly looks, words, and gestures to show that she was interested in seeing them, a sentiment which they reciprocated with signs of evident pleasure. Before leaving, her Majesty, through Sir Henry Ponsonby, expressed to the directorate her interest in the performance, and desired a record of all the strange sights she had witnessed to be sent to Windsor.

While the Queen was engaged at Windsor and at Buckingham Palace in those ceremonials and receptions which were now necessarily engaging additional attention, the daily duties of the state, reading and replying to letters and despatches, signing papers, and making important memoranda of opinions and instructions, had still to be punctually performed, so that some important public engagements in connection with celebrations or memorials of the Jubilee had to be fulfilled (as we have seen) by other members of the royal family representing her Majesty. On the 10th of May the Princess Beatrice, with Prince Henry of Battenberg, on behalf of the Queen, opened

the Royal Yorkshire Jubilee Exhibition at Saltaire, which filled the new buildings of the Science and Art Schools and several annexes provided for the occasion. It need scarcely be mentioned that this exhibition and the permanent institution, in the building of which it was located, had been chiefly promoted, as many local works of great public benefit had long been aided, by the generous support of Mr. Titus Salt and his family, at whose residence, at Milner Field, the prince and princess were the honoured guests on this occasion.

Her royal highness, with the prince, drove to Saltaire in an open carriage, attended by Viscount Bridport and Miss Cochrane, and the party included Earl Fitzwilliam (Lord-lieutenant of the West Riding), the Marquis of Ripon, Lord and Lady Houghton, Sir F. Mappin, and Mr. C. Sykes, M.P. There were also in attendance Mr. S. C. Lister, High Sheriff of Yorkshire; Major-general Daniell, commanding the northern district, and other officers. An escort was formed by a detachment of the 2d West York Yeomanry Cavalry. On reaching the building, Mr. Titus Salt, on behalf of the governors of the Salt Schools, presented Princess Beatrice with a golden key, and her royal highness went through the ceremony of unlocking the front door.

After a short rest the royal visitors were taken through the several departments of the Exhibition, beginning with the fine art section, in which both the old and the modern schools were well represented, and which included loans from the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Devonshire, the Marquis of Hartington, the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Rosebery, Lord Houghton, Mr. Gladstone, and other noblemen and gentlemen, several of the most valuable works being from private collections in the neighbourhood. From the art galleries the princess was conducted to the industrial annexe, where she started the main

engine, thus setting in motion all the machinery in the Exhibition.

Having completed the tour of the annexes, the party were conducted to the concert hall, which was filled by an assembly of about 2000 persons, and here the remainder of the proceedings was gone through. Mr. Titus Salt first read a telegram which had just been received from the Queen as follows:—"Pray express the warm interest I feel in the Yorkshire Jubilee Exhibition, to be opened by my dear daughter on my behalf, and my best wishes for its success."

The Marquis of Ripon then presented an address to Princess Beatrice on behalf of the governors of the Saltaire Schools, to which her royal highness read the following reply:—

"It gives me great pleasure to be allowed on behalf of the Queen, my dear mother, to open the Royal Yorkshire Jubilee Exhibition for this year 1887. In her name I have to thank you for your loyal and dutiful address, for your congratulations on her Majesty attaining to the fiftieth year of her reign, and for your acknowledgment of the support and countenance which it has been her Majesty's pleasure to afford to undertakings intended, like this one, for the moral and intellectual advancement of the country. The Queen is greatly interested in this present Exhibition, and hopes for its best success. I thank you for the cordial welcome which you have extended to myself and my husband, and I desire to express, on my own behalf, my sincere interest in this Exhibition, and my hope that it will entirely fulfil the praiseworthy objects for which it has been promoted."

Hearty cheering followed her royal highness's concluding words, and the "Hallelujah Chorus" having been sung, the princess formally declared the Exhibition open. A Jubilee part-song by Dr. Bridge, and the national anthem were next performed, and the royal party left the hall.

In Saltaire Park, afterwards, Princess Beatrice planted a

small golden Irish yew as a memorial of her visit, being presented with an ivory spade for the purpose.

Every member of the royal family rendered ready and willing service in the inauguration of some benevolent or public institution, the foundation or extension of which had been achieved in time to associate it with the celebration of the Jubilee of the reign of our Sovereign Lady. On the 11th of May, the day following the ceremony performed at Saltaire by the Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Cambridge was at Newcastle-on-Tyne, where, on behalf of her Majesty, he opened the Art and Industrial Exhibition, in which the engineering and chemical industries were represented by a very fine and illustrative display of machinery and of mineral products.

The Queen had consented again to visit the east of London on the 14th of May, for the purpose of opening a large and very remarkable building at Mile End, near Whitechapel, erected for the purpose of affording the means of instruction in various branches of art and industry, and for providing concerts, lectures, reading-rooms, a fine library, gymnasiums, swimming-baths, and other recreations free of charge to the working population of that teeming district. The building was already named "The People's Palace," and the scheme for the establishment of a great institution, so ambitious and inclusive, had grown from the necessity for administering a considerable sum of money arising from the trust left by Mr. Barber Beaumont for supporting a philosophical institute which he had founded and endowed many years ago in Mile End. The "Beaumont Institute" had become a mere relic of past days, if it had not altogether disappeared, but the administrators of the trust were ready and anxious to apply it in a manner consistent with the intention of the founder, and contemplated the establishment of a similar

institution on a more modern and popular basis. At about that time Mr. Walter Besant, a well-known writer of fiction, published a fanciful and romantic novel or story, the scenes of which are principally laid in the eastern quarter of London, and the heroine of which—the young and cultured orphan heiress of a great east-end brewer, and therefore a millionairess, or more so, determines to go to live down Stepney way to see for herself what is the condition of the people. With this end in view she commences business as a dressmaker in a very original and striking manner; and meeting with the hero of the story, who is, as she understands, a cabinet-maker of exceptionally refined manners and cultivated tastes, but who is in reality the protégé of a nobleman, she is led by the influence of tender sentiments and a vivid imagination to give definite shape to what at first appears to be a dream of some remote possibility, and to provide for the working people of that district a "palace of delight," where all that she has endeavoured to accomplish for the improvement and refinement of her own workwomen and their friends shall be carried out on the most splendid scale by means of the wealth which she inherits, and continues to derive from "Messenger's Entire." The description of the "Palace of Delight" in this story not only appropriately engaged the attention of the Beaumont trustees, but caught the fancy of the public, who somewhat fantastically associated the romance and its heroine with the scheme which was proposed to establish a palace for the people of Stepney, White-chapel, and Mile End. The courage of the committee and the fancy of the public were stimulated, and the proposed scheme took so attractive and yet so practical a shape that when appeals were made for donations and contributions, wealthy corporations and individuals responded with sufficient liberality to enable

the trustees, whose funds sufficed to defray the cost of a large proportion of the building, to commence and continue the work, which was assisted by a large number of general contributions or subscriptions.

The Queen had promised to open the People's Palace, and to lay the first stone of the technical and handicraft schools which were to be attached to it, and were to be erected and fitted by the munificence of the Drapers' Company, who had two years previously voted £20,000 as a gift to the Beaumont Trust; but her Majesty was obliged to make it a condition that the building should be ready for her visit as early as the 14th of May, which fell on a Saturday, and was therefore the day most suitable for inaugurating an institution to be devoted to popular recreation. A week beforehand preparations had been made for decorating the streets, and in the city, particularly at the Mansion House, which was a great centre of attraction, the array of garlands, banners, and sumptuous drapery and gilding was very splendid and imposing.

An aspect of grand and imposing pageantry was given to the route by the number of military uniforms. Besides the large force of 10,000 metropolitan volunteers, it was estimated that the regular troops—artillery, cavalry, and infantry—under arms numbered 5000, principally drawn from London, Hounslow, and Woolwich.

The immense crowd of spectators awaiting the Queen as the royal cortége drew out from Paddington Station was significant of the multitudes who thronged the streets and assembled in dense masses where trophy or ceremony was made a special feature. The royal procession, with its escort of Life Guards and attended by the equerries, consisted of five barouche carriages, each drawn by four bays, conveying the ladies and

chief officers of the household. In the fourth carriage were the Earl of Mount Edgecumbe, lord-steward; the Duke of Portland, master of the horse; Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and Prince Henry of Battenberg; and in the last carriage, the Princess Helena (Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein), Princess Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg), and the Queen. Every window was filled with spectators, and from end to end of the great thoroughfares one rolling cheer was to be heard, mingled with the sounds of music, the ringing of church bells, and the singing of school children who occupied tiers of seats in front of some of the churches and public buildings. At Holborn-bars—the western boundary of the city—one of the most interesting incidents in the royal progress took place, in the presentation of the civic sword to the Queen. The thoroughfare at this point was brilliant with decorations in honour of the occasion. A guard of honour of the Hon. Artillery Company was posted on the spot, and the artistic effect and animation of the scene was enhanced by the picturesque old gabled houses of Staple Inn. The Lord-mayor, attended by the sword and mace bearers, and accompanied by Alderman Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Alderman de Keyser, Mr. Alderman Whitehead, and the Sheriffs of London, left the Mansion House at half-past three to meet the Queen, and the civic cortége was drawn up by the side of the roadway to await the coming of her Majesty. Upon the arrival of the Queen the royal procession halted for a short time to allow the ceremony to be performed. The Lord-mayor, who wore his black-and-gold robe of office and collar of SS, having previously received the pearl sword from the sword-bearer, advanced with the mace reversed and the point of the sword lowered. Addressing the Queen his lordship said, "I congratulate your Majesty upon

entering your ancient and most loyal city of London, and I have the honour to present your Majesty with the pearl sword." The Queen, amid enthusiastic cheering, touched the sword and returned it to the chief magistrate, saying, with a smile, " My Lord-mayor, I return it to very good keeping." The military band which had been stationed on the spot then played the national anthem, and, the ceremony having concluded, the Lord-mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs returned to their carriages and preceded the royal procession as far as the city boundary in Aldgate, the city marshal (Major Burnaby) leading the way. Upon reaching the boundary in Aldgate the civic cortége turned down Mansel Street. The Lord-mayor removed his hat, and the sword and mace were reversed as her Majesty, who bowed to the corporation officials, passed on. The Lord-mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs then returned to the Mansion House to await the visit of the Queen.

The line of route through the city was profusely decorated with flags, trophies, and other appropriate ornament. In the churchyard of St. Sepulchre's, Holborn Viaduct, seats had been erected to accommodate a large number of spectators, among them being 400 children of the St. Sepulchre's parochial and other schools, who sang the national anthem as the royal procession passed. A similar stand had also been built in front of Christ's Hospital in Newgate Street. Outside Aldgate Church 350 boys and girls of the Sir John Cass and St. Botolph, Aldgate, schools, with their masters and teachers, were posted, the children wearing Jubilee medals.

At the London Hospital several large stands were erected just within the railings, and on one of these sat the numerous nurses of the establishment in their uniform of cotton dresses and muslin caps. The last time her Majesty had appeared in the East-end it was, as we have seen, to open "The Grocers'

Wing" of the hospital in 1876; the Prince and Princess of Wales having opened "The Alexandra Wing" in 1864; and these wings bore inscriptions of the fact, a touching reference to the royal visits appearing at the gate in the words, "Sick, and ye visited me," followed by "May God bless your Majesty!" The royal party were most warmly cheered as they passed the hospital, from the windows of which many handkerchiefs waved by the patients saluted the Queen-Empress. At Mann and Crossman's brewery a structure had been erected for the accommodation of the children of the Licensed Victuallers' School, and preparations had been made for illuminations at night, consisting of the Prince of Wales' feathers and various other devices. The Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Hospital displayed, both in Hebrew and English characters, the motto, "The Lord bless and preserve thee." At the station of the fire brigade decorations were effectively made by the judicious blending of hatchets and other implements with flags and bunting, the two escapes which have done so much service in the past being placed in the road and converted into a sort of archway, the men, hatchets in hand, occupying striking positions upon the ladders.

The spectacle in the main East-end thoroughfare was very picturesque, not only because of the vast multitude of people assembled there, the bravery of military uniforms, and the number of vehicles drawn up by the broad roadway and crowded with occupants, but in consequence of the general holiday welcome which seemed to find expression in bright sunshine, the fluttering of innumerable flags, the waving of handkerchiefs, the lively strains of the bands of volunteer regiments which played a selection of music, the universal sense of life and movement.

The exterior of the site of the new building was not elaborately ornamented, but the hoarding which concealed the

space where the additions to the structure were to be made had been covered with crimson and white striped canvas which with a few flags was exceedingly effective. The great hall—the Queen's Hall, as it is called—needed no further decorations than the palms and flowers tastefully arranged to accord with the gold and colour which shone with a splendour suitable to a great state occasion. The building was worthy to be called a Palace, if it were only for the sake of this one superb central assembly-room, designed for rest, recreation, and companionship—a “drawing-room” for the delight of the people of the eastern district of the great metropolis. This sumptuous apartment, a hundred and thirty feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and sixty feet high, is named from the marble figures of twenty-two of the famous queens of history which stand on pedestals between the pairs of columns that sustain the lofty ceiling. Through finely painted and tinted counterlights the windows in the roof diffuse a sunny and cheerful glow upon the beautiful decorations, and gilded balconies, and illumine the elliptical recess in which a grand organ, the gift of Mr. Dyer Edwards, commands the orchestra, where a hundred and forty performers can discourse sweet music or otherwise entertain the guests in the ample area or spacious side-galleries. The whole effect of this magnificent hall provided for visitors, who may sit, and read, and rest, or enjoy the recreations of the drawing-room on evenings when there are entertainments for them to see or hear, is that of cheerful welcome associated with a certain splendour which made it a fitting reception-hall for the Sovereign Lady, whose coming was waited for with intense and eager interest, that found expression in the continuous acclamations of the vast multitude who thronged the long series of streets from the western to the eastern border of the greatest city in the world.

Detachments of Life Guards, Grenadier Guards, and Tower Hamlets Volunteers lined the roadways near the People's Palace. In the palace inclosure orderly arrangements were secured by the police; and three guards of honour were stationed, consisting of Grenadier Guards, the 1st Middlesex (Victoria) Rifles, and the 2d Tower Hamlets Volunteers. From two to four o'clock in the afternoon a constant stream of carriages conveyed the visitors who had received invitations to be present at the ceremony. The spectacle inside the superb hall was one not soon to be forgotten, the varied, subdued, and beautiful hues of the ladies' morning dresses mingling with uniforms and official, clerical, and academic robes, blended in a wonderful variety and yet harmony of colour, which changed in the soft brilliant light as those who were to take a personal part in the ceremony—deputy-lieutenants in scarlet, ministers of state in blue and gold, civilians and officials in court suits—hurried hither and thither or ushered the coming guests to their seats. The grand organ had not yet been placed in the space designed for it, but the choir of the Bow and Bromley Institute and a full orchestral band conducted by Mr. Joseph Barnby performed a selection of music from the works of famous modern composers. A raised platform covered with crimson cloth led from the south entrance, at which the visitors arrived, to the dais at the northern end of the hall. Behind the dais sat the orchestra and choir, the ladies of the latter attired in white and carrying posies of bright-hued flowers. The account of every eye-witness records that the occasion was one of genuine happiness and good-will. It was a gala May-day, and the Sovereign Lady, who fifty years before had been named the May-Queen of the British nation, was in the midst of her people, returning the heart-greetings of the humble thousands with smiling grace

and evident signs of emotion. The distinguished visitors invited to meet her Majesty at the People's Palace had been arriving in quick succession, and were greeted by the popular voice with varied salutations, according to popular estimate of their public reputation. Statesmen, divines, men and women eminent in science, art, and commerce, or distinguished for philanthropy, were numerous in that brilliant throng, and were known to many among the vast concourse outside.

The concert was not quite over before the "royalties" began to arrive. The first cheer was for the Princess Mary of Teck, accompanied by her daughter the Princess Victoria of Teck. The Duke of Cambridge, in field-marshal's uniform, escorted the princesses to the dais, where they took up the positions assigned to them by Mr. Ritchie, who was minister in attendance in place of the home secretary, who had been prevented by indisposition from being present. The next cheer was for the Prince and Princess of Wales, who came with their eldest daughter, Princess Louise, and the Crown-prince of Denmark. Everybody rose to see them, and it was unanimously voted that the princess looked quite charming in a dress of very dark purple velvet, with a tinge of green in it, spotted with large crimson strawberries. All the princesses carried bouquets given to them by many pretty children; and the first floral greeting offered to the illustrious ladies present came from a dozen little girls selected from four of the Board schools of the East-end. The Prince of Wales wore a field-marshal's uniform and the blue ribbon of the Garter. The Prince of Denmark was in military uniform.

Suddenly the distant cheer from the Mile End Road and the fanfare of the royal trumpeters quickened all hearts. A brief, crisp word of command was heard, then a clash of arms; and as Mr. Barnby's orchestra took up the national anthem

the whole vast audience rose to the wave of his baton in order to greet the Queen.

The procession entering the hall consisted of: the chairman of the trust, Sir Edmund Hay Currie; the chairman of stewards of the Queen's Fund, the Earl of Rosebery; the treasurer, Mr. Spencer Charington, M.P.; and the trustees. Then came Lords Lathom and Mount-Edgcumbe, the lord-chamberlain and lord-steward, walking backwards with their white wands of office; and then, followed by their royal highnesses Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg and Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchesses of Buccleuch and Athole, and the ladies and gentlemen of the household, came her Majesty. Dressed in black, with a sprig of white lilac in her bonnet, and carrying a bouquet of red roses, the Queen moved with her wonted dignity to the platform, bowing repeatedly and smiling with very evident pleasure.

Her Majesty having been received on the dais by the Prince of Wales, who kissed her hand, took her place in front of the chair of state and greeted other members of the royal family, especially the young princesses, with radiant smiles. The national anthem having been sung by the choir Sir E. Hay Currie at once stepped forward and read and presented to her Majesty an address, thanking her in the name of the trustees and of the East-end population for her gracious presence and interest, cordially acknowledging their obligations to the Prince and Princess of Wales, by whom the foundation-stone had been laid in the summer of 1886, assuring her Majesty of the affectionate loyalty of the people of that great district, and describing the manner in which the scheme had been suggested and its subsequent organization and intention. Referring to which the address said:—

"In the Queen's Hall of the Palace, now first used, and destined, we trust, to bear its name with honour for all time, it is intended, in the first place, to provide for the working men and women of the district that great boon of music which, in its various forms, constitutes so genuine an enjoyment and solace, and the elevating influence of which is so universally felt. . . . In the Queen's Hall various entertainments and amusements will take place, and popular lectures on scientific and general subjects also be delivered. At other times the hall will be used as a general reading-room and library. A second and well-found library, for more retired study and for reference, forms part of the plans; and the scheme—bearing in mind the equal importance of providing for the physical needs of the frequenters of the palace—also embraces swimming-baths and gymnasia for both sexes; while it is hoped eventually to surround the buildings with ornamental grounds affording health and pleasure. Numerous rooms for social gatherings and for indoor games are contemplated. Suitable accommodation, long urgently needed, will likewise be arranged for the meetings of provident and other local associations. For the remaining important division of the People's Palace—the technical and handicraft schools, of which your Majesty will presently lay the first stone—the trustees are indebted to the Worshipful Company of Drapers of the City of London. The cost of erecting and fitting these schools will amount to £20,000, and the Drapers' Company, two years since, voted that sum as a gift to the Beaumont Trust. It is a sincere gratification to the trustees that so public-spirited an act of munificence should be honoured, as it is to be honoured to-day, by your Majesty."

The Queen having taken the address and handed it to the Prince of Wales, read, in her usual clear and audible voice, the following reply:—

"I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address. It gives me great satisfaction to open this fine building provided for the benefit of the people of the East of London, whose lives and unceasing but honourable toil will be cheered by the various opportunities of rational and instruc-

tive entertainment and of artistic enjoyment here afforded to them. I rejoice to think that the noble contributions of the Drapers' Company, and of many other benevolent persons, have enabled you to carry through and complete so large and generous a scheme. My beloved husband would have viewed with infinite pleasure such efforts to meet the wants and add to the pleasures of this busy population. I thank you heartily for your good wishes on the occasion of my attainment of the fiftieth year of my reign. I hope this undertaking will continue to prosper, and by God's blessing fulfil all the worthy objects for which it is designed."

Both the address and the reply were received with repeated and cordial cheering.

Her Majesty having courteously accepted a richly-wrought gold key of the hall from the treasurer, took her seat upon the chair of state while Madame Albani sang "Home, Sweet Home," with the effect which that song, as it is sung by her, always produces on an audience.

Then at a sign from the Queen the Prince of Wales stepped to the front of the dais, and said: "I am commanded by her Majesty to declare the Queen's Hall now open." This declaration was received with an outburst of cheering, and was announced to the thousands of spectators outside the building by a flourish of trumpets.

Part of the hymn "Old Hundredth" having been sung by the choir, the following gentlemen were presented to her Majesty by the Earl of Lathom:—Sir Edmund Hay Currie, Mr. Spencer Charrington, M.P., Mr. John Rogers Jennings, master of the Drapers' Company; Mr. William P. Sawyer, clerk of the Drapers' Company; Captain Spencer Beaumont, representing the Beaumont Trust; Mr. E. R. Robson, the architect; Mr. Walter Besant, Mr. Wilberforce Bryant, and Mr. T. Dyer Edwardes. To each of these gentlemen the Queen spoke a

few words, those addressed to Mr. Jennings being accompanied by a command—conveyed by a gesture—that he should kneel to receive the honour of knighthood, which her Majesty conferred on him, giving him the accolade with a sword taken from one of the officers of state. Her Majesty, taking the arm of the Prince of Wales and attended by the royal family and the suite, then adjourned to the site of the new technical and handicraft schools, the first stone of which was to be laid by the royal hand in presence of a large number of spectators, who had already assembled on a stand which had been erected opposite to the royal dais on the east side of the Queen's Hall.

Facing her Majesty, on the walls of St. Benet's Vicarage, were the words, inscribed in large characters, "Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all;" and on the church itself, "Fear God. Honour the King." After the royal party had taken up positions on the dais, and the cheers with which they were greeted had subsided, the Archbishop of Canterbury offered a solemn and appropriate prayer. Then followed the recitation of the Lord's Prayer, after which the master of the Drapers' Company handed to the Queen a report of the origin of the building and the coins of the current year, which her Majesty placed in a glass vessel. With the assistance of the architect these articles were deposited beneath the stone, which her Majesty laid with a silver trowel, being assisted in the use of the line and plummet by the Prince of Wales. Loud cheers for the Queen and the Prince of Wales were given at the conclusion of this ceremony and were graciously acknowledged. After the benediction had been pronounced by the Archbishop of Canterbury, her Majesty returned to the Queen's Hall, and leaving the People's Palace at a quarter to six o'clock, amid enthusiastic cheering, began her return journey by Burdett

Road and Commercial Road, where the decorations were as lavish and the welcome as hearty as in Mile End and Whitechapel.

At the Mansion House great preparation had been made for the reception of her Majesty, who had accepted an invitation to visit the official residence of the Lord-mayor of London for the first time since her accession, though she had once, when Princess Victoria, accompanied her mother, the Duchess of Kent, there on her way to see the Tower of London. The exterior of the Mansion House was handsomely decorated. The massive columns of the portico were twined with evergreens; crimson and gold drapery surrounded the various windows, groups and clusters of flags and trophies were displayed, and the royal standard was run up on a flagstaff upon the roof when the Queen entered the building. The balcony was draped with crimson cloth, and massive wreaths of primroses and violets were hung from the outside. A large company of about seven hundred invited guests were there by the courtesy of the Lord-mayor and the Lady-mayoress to witness her Majesty's reception. The corporation of London, in whose honour, according to the official announcement from Windsor, the Queen's visit was paid, were asked in a body and, with few exceptions, were present to greet the Sovereign, each member being privileged to bring a lady. The aldermen wore their scarlet robes and chains, the common council their mazarine gowns over evening dress, and the high officers their full-bottomed wigs and silk gowns. The saloon, in which there were nearly three hundred seats and through which the Queen had to pass twice, was naturally the place most sought after, and it was soon rapidly filled, the guests beginning to arrive as early as three o'clock. At the immediate entrance to the saloon the aldermen were

allotted seats, the seniors on the right and the juniors opposite them, and among them were the late Sir Robert Carden, the veteran father of the court, then in his eighty-sixth year, and Alderman de Keyser, who was the next alderman in succession to be Lord-mayor (in 1888). The sheriffs, the chief civic officers, members of the lieutenancy of the city of London, the governor of the Bank of England, and a number of other influential guests were also present. A concert of instrumental music performed by a string-band, and several part-songs and glees, entertained the company till the arrival of her Majesty and the royal party, for whom a passage, carpeted with crimson baize and kept with standards, was arranged down the saloon and through the Egyptian Hall to the state drawing-room; the company being seated on either side. The Lord-mayor having changed his black-and-gold for the state robes of crimson velvet and ermine, received her Majesty at the Walbrook entrance to the Mansion House, where a royal guard of honour of a hundred men of the Royal Fusileers was drawn up, and the ground was kept by a detachment of Horse Guards. An enormous crowd had collected, and the windows and roofs of the tall city buildings in the vicinity were thronged with spectators. After a short pause the near approach of the cavalry escort and the strains of the national anthem from bands close by were heard, and then her Majesty reached the Mansion House amid the loud and vociferous cheering of the crowd, the guard of honour giving a royal salute and the band of the Household Cavalry playing "God save the Queen." The Lord-mayor went forward to the royal carriage to receive and welcome the Queen, who, having addressed some gracious words to the chief magistrate, was then escorted by his lordship up the principal staircase into the saloon, the Lord-mayor walking on the left, and the Prince

of Wales on the right of her Majesty, who was followed by the Princess of Wales and her daughter the Princess Louise, the Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Crown-prince of Denmark, the Duke of Cambridge, the Princess Mary Adelaide, the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, and her Majesty's suite.

At her Majesty's approach the guests rose, and the Queen, with pleasant recognition of the respectful salutations of the company, passed down the saloon. A momentary pause was made, while Miss Violet Hanson, a little daughter of the Lord-mayor and Lady-mayoress—a child of nine years of age—had the honour of presenting to her Majesty a magnificent bouquet of orchids, roses, and double geraniums, the latter being arranged to form the city arms. The Queen, with a sweet smile, received the bouquet from the young lady, and then her Majesty and the royal family passed through the Egyptian Hall into the State Drawing-room, and was there received by Lady Hanson, the Lady-mayoress. Her Majesty and the royal family were served with tea and strawberries. At the request of the Queen the Lord-mayor presented to her Majesty his elder daughter, Miss Hanson, his two sons, Messrs. Gerald and Francis Hanson, both Cambridge undergraduates and officers in the militia, and Miss Harrison, a near relative, and the Queen, then calling to her side the little girl who had previously handed her the bouquet, kissed her on the cheek. Her Majesty was shown the jewelled civic sceptre and purse—both things of great antiquity—in which she showed much interest, and then she examined the tapestry work which had that day been put into position for the first time. Her Majesty very graciously expressed to the Lord-mayor the great satisfaction she felt at her visit to the Mansion House, and at the excellence of the

arrangements which had been made for her comfort. The Queen also inscribed her name "Victoria R. and I.," with the date, May 14, 1887, in the Lord-mayor's visitors' album, and the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the royal family afterwards appended their autographs.

After a stay of half an hour her Majesty rose to leave, and then, amid the playing of the national anthem, she passed into the saloon, still escorted by the Lord-mayor. As the Queen proceeded past the senior aldermen, the Lord-mayor indicated them by name, and her Majesty graciously bowed to each. A special honour was reserved for Sir Robert Carden, for her Majesty paused, shook him cordially by the hand, and expressed the pleasure it gave her to see him in such good health. Sir Robert seemed deeply affected by the royal recognition. Her Majesty then passed out of the saloon and thence to her carriage, before entering which she again conveyed to the Lord-mayor the pleasure which her visit had given her, and expressed her thanks for his hospitality. As the royal carriage drove away amid the loud cheering of the assembled multitude, her Majesty again bowed to the chief magistrate, who made a profound reverence to the sovereign guest. Immediately afterwards the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown-prince of Denmark, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary Adelaide left the Mansion House, the crowd giving them an equally hearty and cordial greeting.

It was afterwards intimated to Sir Reginald Hanson, the Lord-mayor, that her Majesty had graciously conferred on him the honour of a baronetcy.

A baronetcy was also conferred on Sir Robert Carden, the senior alderman, in recognition of his great services in the course of a long and honourable career, and in commemoration

of her Majesty's visit to the city and the very loyal welcome she received from the citizens. The sheriffs, Mr. Alderman Henry Isaacs and Lieut.-colonel Alfred Kirby, received the honour of knighthood.

On the 16th of May the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne were at Liverpool to represent the Queen by opening, in her Majesty's name, the Royal Jubilee Exhibition, which was a more extended continuation of the great Industrial Exhibition of the previous year, when her Majesty herself visited the city and received such a loyal welcome. The streets through which the princess and the suite passed were gay with flags, bannerets, and other evidences of welcome, and, long before the hour for the royal party to appear, had been crowded with eager spectators, who greeted the appearance of the princess with unmistakable loyalty.

In the course of their procession the royal party alighted to visit the School of Cookery. Here the princess was conducted to the kitchen, where a class of elementary school-girls were in the midst of a lesson in the culinary art. Her royal highness was evidently much interested in the proceedings, and greatly delighted some of the industrious pupils by smilingly nodding her appreciation of their activity and zeal. At the Deaf and Dumb Institute the royal party were received by the mayor (Sir David Radcliffe) and Mr. Banner, and her royal highness having been presented with an address, the Marquis of Lorne, on her behalf, declared the building open, after which she was conducted over the institute, and, having inscribed her name in the visitors' book, took her departure. There was still a lengthy drive to the Exhibition, in and around which a great concourse of people had gathered. Her royal highness alighted at the entrance to the Colonial Court, where she was

greeted with enthusiastic cheers. Sir D. Radcliffe (the mayor), the high-sheriff, and other gentlemen were present to receive the royal party, and a procession was formed along the main avenue to a dais under the great dome. Sir David Radcliffe, as chairman of the reception committee, then read an address to her royal highness, who read a reply, in which she said:

"Sir David Radcliffe and Gentlemen of the Executive Council,—I have received on several occasions proofs of kindness from the people of Liverpool, and it was with pleasure that I learned from the Queen, my dear mother, her desire that I should open this Exhibition on her behalf. Her Majesty has desired me to say that she will never forget the cordial welcome which she received when she visited your city last year, and when the whole population of Liverpool and the duchy of Lancaster was so largely represented to meet her. Her Majesty has watched with interest and admiration their conduct in times of distress, and she is rejoiced at the ever-growing prosperity of this part of her dominions—a prosperity due to the energy of the Lancashire men and women. This Exhibition commemorates the completion of fifty years of her reign, and it seems well that such an occasion should be marked by an ampler continuation of the great Industrial Exhibition of last year, in which you showed the advance and progress of peaceful arts as well as those necessary for the science of war. I know that this great port not only looks at greatness attained within these islands, but also has the warmest feelings of brotherhood towards the immense development of our empire beyond the seas. Our colonies, we know, are one with us, and they now have expressed their desire to have one fleet with us. I thank you, as being in some measure able to speak in their name, for the kind words in which you have referred to them in your address. May their prosperity ever increase with that of the mother country, and may this Exhibition be a landmark in your prosperous history, and be used, through God's blessing, for the benefit of the people of our beloved Queen's empire."

The reading of the reply was received with much applause,

and the Bishop of Liverpool having offered up prayer, the princess, advancing towards the centre of the platform, said: "I now declare this building open henceforth, in the name of the Queen." This was received with enthusiastic cheering from the thousands of visitors, and was followed by a magnificent rendering of the "Hallelujah Chorus."

On the same day the Queen had received, at Windsor Castle, deputations from the London and Edinburgh universities, the municipality of Edinburgh, the English Presbyterians, and the Society of Friends and various Nonconformist bodies, whose representatives went to the palace for the purpose of presenting addresses to her Majesty Earl Granville, Mr. John Bright, and others arrived at Windsor shortly before two o'clock, the majority of the visitors being conveyed in eleven royal carriages to the castle, where luncheon was served upon their arrival. Her Majesty received the deputations at three o'clock; that from the Society of Friends, consisting of representative members of the body, presented their address, which was read by Mr. John Bright, and is for that and other reasons sufficiently interesting to be preserved.

Address from a Meeting representing the Society of Friends in Great Britain, held in London, the 13th day of the Fifth Month called May, 1887.—

"To Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dominions thereunto belonging.

"May it please the Queen. It is with feelings of humble thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father, that we approach our beloved Sovereign with the tribute of loyal and respectful congratulations on the completion of the fiftieth year of her reign.

"For more than two centuries it has been our privilege to give to successive occupants of the throne the simple but sincere assurances of

our loyal attachment. But on no former occasion have we had greater cause for devout gratitude to Almighty God than in commemorating the marvellous progress which the nation has been permitted to witness since the year when William Allen, the trusted friend of thy honoured father, appeared as one of a deputation, with the message of our faithful love, on the occasion of thy accession in 1837.

"The abolition of the apprenticeship system in the West Indies, and the final extinction of slavery throughout the British dominions; the extension of religious liberty; the amelioration of the criminal code; the removal of restrictions on trade and commerce, and of many of the inequalities arising from class legislation; the measures which have been adopted to secure a general system of education, and the extension of the elective franchise; the increased encouragement given in so many influential quarters to the promotion of habits of temperance and self-restraint amongst the masses of the people,—these are but a few amongst the many lessons given us by the half-century now drawing to its close, inviting to thankful recognition and continued persevering effort in the promotion of the great cause of righteousness and truth.

"It is in a spirit, we trust, of Christian humility, which, we believe, will not be misunderstood, that we mingle these our congratulations with the expression of our unfeigned sorrow that war should have so often disturbed a reign otherwise so happy and illustrious. It is the King of Kings himself who pronounces the words, 'Love your enemies.' We rejoice to know that our beloved Queen has with her own hand, as a fitting motto for this Jubilee year, commended to her subjects the angelic message announcing His reign, 'Peace on earth, good-will toward men.'

"Alone amongst the long line of English monarchs it has been thy peculiar happiness to admit thy people to a share in the intimacies of thy domestic life. Permit us to assure thee that in the review of this eventful period we have not forgotten thy greatest sorrow. It is our joy to believe that it has pleased the Father of mercies to grant in no small measure the consolations of His grace in the blessed experience that His chastening is to His children ever a discipline of perfect love.

"In the heart-felt conviction that the religion of our Lord and Saviour

Jesus Christ is the only foundation for the true happiness of man and for the prosperity of nations, it is our fervent prayer that this may continue to be the stability of thy throne and to influence all the deliberations of thy government, and that when thy service in this life shall have been accomplished, thy earthly crown may, in His great mercy, be exchanged for the crown of righteousness 'that fadeth not away.'

The Queen made the following gracious reply:—

"I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address and for your affectionate congratulations on the attainment of the fiftieth year of my reign.

"The renewed assurances of the attachment of the Society of Friends to my throne and person are very gratifying to me.

"I unite with you in gratitude to Almighty God, by whose good providence so many blessings have been vouchsafed to this nation during my reign, and I pray that the same mercies may be ever continued to my faithful people, and that they may never cease to advance in earthly prosperity and in moral and religious excellence."

On the 18th of May the last of the great drawing-rooms of the season was held at Buckingham Palace by the Princess of Wales on behalf of the Queen, who was suffering from fatigue after the exertions of the previous week, and was preparing to retire for a short sojourn at Balmoral, there to keep her sixty-eighth birthday, and to take some change and repose in preparation for the approaching great celebration of the Jubilee in Westminster Abbey. Her Majesty left Windsor on the evening of Friday the 20th May, and during her absence the castle was prepared for the reception of the royal guests who were to attend the Jubilee festivities in June; but before the commencement of these preparations the Queen had ordered that the state apartments should be kept open for the public for the 26th, 27th, 30th (Whit Monday), and the 31st of May.

On Saturday the 21st, the Prince of Wales on behalf of

her Majesty held a levee at St James's Palace, and the same afternoon, in rather inclement weather, went with the Princess, their daughters the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maude, and the Crown-prince of Denmark, to the London Hospital, White-chapel, to open the Nurses' Home and the new Library which had just been added to that valuable institution. The royal party was received by the Duke of Cambridge, the president of the hospital, and a distinguished assembly, and visited the various wards, speaking to the patients, and taking special and loving notice of the little ones in the children's ward, amongst whom the superb roses in the bouquet presented to the Princess were laughingly distributed.

The Nurses' Home was a scene of great interest, especially as it was already known that the Queen proposed to devote the principal portion of the Jubilee gift from the women of England to the establishment of an institution for nurses. The religious part of the ceremony of opening the valuable additions to the institution was conducted by the Bishop of Bedford, and in reply to an address the Prince of Wales spoke in hearty appreciation of the invaluable work that was being effected by the largest civil hospital in the United Kingdom, and one almost to be regarded in the light of a national institution.

On Sunday the 22d of May was held one of the most solemn and significant, as it was one of the earliest actual observances of the Jubilee in London. Nearly a fortnight previously a resolution had been passed in the House of Commons that the members of the House should attend a special Jubilee thanksgiving service in the church of St. Margaret, Westminster, officially the church of the House of Commons. The last Sunday on which the House of Commons had attended in state was on May 4, 1856, on the conclusion of the peace

with Russia; but on no previous occasion had their attendance such an historical interest as the assembly of the House representing the Commons of England to offer thanksgivings on the jubilee of the reign of the Sovereign. Such an event had never occurred before, and it was one which demanded and received some observance of stately though simple ceremonial.

Members met in their places in the house before eleven o'clock in the morning, and the arrival of the speaker at the clerk's table signified the time for attending the service.

Just before the clock struck a quarter to eleven the Speaker, Mr. Peel, arose and walked down the house to the door, the members forming behind him in order, four abreast. The first four were Mr. Gladstone, Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. Courtney, and Lord Hartington; next them came Mr. Goschen, Lord George Hamilton, Mr. Stanhope, and Mr. Ritchie; then followed Mr. Arthur Balfour, Mr. Raikes, Sir James Fergusson, and Lord Arthur Hill; after them other ministers and ex-ministers, and then the ordinary members—Whigs, Tories, and Radicals taking places for once side by side, and all in perfect harmony—altogether about four hundred. At the folding-doors the Speaker was met by the serjeant-at-arms (Mr. Erskine), bearing the mace; and, preceded by that symbol of his authority, and attended by his officers, the right hon. gentleman passed through the members' lobby to the central hall, where other members fell in, and the procession was properly marshalled. At the north door, looking into Palace Yard, the clergy of Westminster Abbey and of St. Margaret's formed the head of the procession, which consisted of the church officers, choir, lay vicars, minor canons, and clergy of St. Margaret's and Westminster; the Dean of Peterborough; the scholars of Westminster School; the high-bailiff of Westminster; Canons Duck-

worth and Furse; the Bishops of Sydney and Rupert's Land; the Dean of Westminster; Archdeacon Farrar and the Lord-Bishop of Ripon, Dr. Boyd Carpenter. Then followed the attendants of the House of Commons, with insignia of office: the deputy and assistant serjeants-at-arms (Mr. Frank Gossett and Colonel Legge); the serjeant-at-arms (Mr. Erskine), bearing the mace; the right hon. the Speaker, with his train-bearers; members of the Queen's privy-council; and the Commons of the United Kingdom.

On the procession passing out of Palace Yard into Parliament Square it was joined by the band of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, who, playing an appropriate march, led the way with slow and measured pace, as befitted the dignity and character of the participants and the function. It was nearly five minutes after the hour appointed for the commencement of the service when the west door of St. Margaret's was reached and the procession entered the church, their progress having been awaited by a great crowd of six or seven thousand well-dressed persons. In Westminster Hall and outside, as church hour drew near, the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, under Colonel Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P., to the number of 780, formed a guard of honour for the Speaker and the members, and assisted in keeping the line of march clear.

Tickets of admission for ladies had been supplied to members who had intimated their intention of being present, and all persons privileged to be present, other than members, had assembled in the church, every seat of which was filled, while many persons stood. The scene in the church was exceedingly animated, though, of course, it was marked by a fitting solemnity and quietude of demeanour. The seats in the nave were reserved for members, those in the two aisles being set apart

for their ladies. In the choir the clergy in their vestments and the choristers in white surplices formed themselves into procession. In the front row of the benches kept free for members two elderly gentlemen sat side by side, both looking well and vigorous. One of them was Viscount Eversley (C. Shaw Lefevre), who, born in February, 1794, entered parliament in 1830, and was Speaker of the House of Commons from 1839 to 1857; the other was Viscount Hampden (H. B. W. Brand), Speaker from 1872 to 1884, when he retired and was succeeded by Mr. Arthur Peel.

At a quarter to eleven Dr. Bridge, of Westminster Abbey, who was conducting the musical arrangements, played on the organ the march from "The Templars" (Benedict) as the clergy and choir went in procession through the south east door towards Westminster Hall to meet the Commons. Meanwhile the Archbishops of Canterbury and York had taken their places on either side of the altar table, which was slightly decorated with flowers, while in front of it stood some splendid specimens of the azalea in full bloom. It was about five minutes past eleven when the clergy returned at the head of the procession, entering slowly by the west door in the order already mentioned, Dr. Bridge the while playing the march from Beethoven's "Ruins of Athens." The Speaker, who wore his full-bottomed wig, and his state robes richly embroidered with gold, took his seat in the front pew with his predecessors, Viscounts Eversley and Hampden. Mr. Erskine, the serjeant-at-arms, who had borne the mace thus far, placed it on rests constructed specially for the purpose in front of the Speaker. Ministers, ex-ministers, and privy-councillors took their places, as a matter of course, in the pews nearest that of the chief commoner, and when all the members were seated there was not a place

vacant. The service opened with the singing of the national anthem; and, as the choirs of Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's were combined for the occasion, and the congregation joined heartily in the singing, the effect was very grand. Two additional verses, specially adapted to the occasion of the Jubilee, were introduced, one written by the Rev. S. Baring Gould, the other by a writer whose initials were C. N. S. The ordinary morning prayer service of the Church of England was then proceeded with, certain prayers for the Queen and royal family being interpolated from the service appointed in the Prayer Book for June 20. The prayers were read by the Rev. Dr. Troutbeck and Archdeacon Farrar. The latter also read the second lesson from Rom. xiii., the first (1 Kings iii. 5-14) having been read by the Hon. and Rev. F. Byng, the Speaker's chaplain. The absolution was pronounced by the Archbishop of York, and the benediction, at the close of the service, by the Archbishop of Canterbury. After the third collect Handel's well-known Coronation Anthem was sung with much effect, and then followed a fine hymn composed expressly for her Majesty's Jubilee by the Bishop of Ripon, and set to music by Dr. Bridge, who had introduced into the tune the melody known as "Gotha" composed by Prince Albert. This hymn of praise and worship was entitled "For the priceless gifts," and at its conclusion the sermon was preached by its author, the Bishop of Ripon, whose discourse, remarkable for its power, brilliant illustration, and sustained eloquence, was listened to with intense interest.

The text was taken from the 5th verse of the 137th Psalm, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." The sermon may be said to have been devoted to the theme of high resolution, true righteousness and reverence, and the holy application of great gifts.

The words, he said, were spoken by the Israelite in exile. It was the declaration of the high resolve of his patriotism. He had the gift of song, but he felt it would be a profanation to use it for any but the highest ends. His wish was that if ever he forgot the high ideal of his life, the Jerusalem of his love, that his right hand should forget her cunning. There spoke a high and holy reverence for life and for the powers which are given us in it. Even that gift of song which might be used to beguile that weary hour, to conciliate the captor, or to win some mitigation of the severity of his captivity, he felt to be too high a thing to be used for any end that was low or base. If so, how much more true of those larger gifts which are given to men? The power to rule, the wisdom to initiate a policy, the subtle force of persuasion, the resolution and talent to imagine and to achieve great things, the song of the poet, the skill of the painter, the voice of the statesman should be kept ever for purposes great and high, and never debased to unworthy ends. It was of that reverence for the gifts of life that he would speak that day.

The sermon, which was, so to speak, illustrated by allusions from a number of English writers, was almost free from any very special reference to the Jubilee till near its close, when the bishop thus made allusion to her Majesty and her reign:—

“We have only to call to mind that bright summer morning when the girlish Sovereign was first greeted with the title of Queen; that day when she was surrounded by the veterans of the nation in war and politics, and read with steady voice her address from the throne—a spectacle so impressive that one of the greatest of European characters declared it to be the most striking he had ever seen. And we have only to pass on to those bright days of joyous wedded life, mingled with stern self-repression and self-sacrificing devotion to duty, on to those drear Decembers of the reign, when the hand of Death took away the Prince Consort, that noble knight of the nineteenth century, and left the throne a lonely splendour; on, again, to that sad anniversary when the nurse of her people and the beloved of her home was snatched all too quickly away, or to that dark December day when the whole of the nation waited

for every bulletin and watched with anxious solicitude round the bed-side of the fever-stricken Prince, or that spring day when the youngest and not the least promising of the sons of the throne was snatched from life on a distant shore; and so onward to those many days of sympathy and kindness, to the frequent inquiries when any calamity had befallen her people, to the sympathy with those who waited while brave men were entombed in the cruel pit, or children were slaughtered by some act of carelessness, or a little drowned child was drawn from the Dee side. By all these deeds of kindness, rare in fable and history, the throne is drawn nearer to the people and the people to the throne, and we can understand what meaning lies in these great words of Edmund Burke, "Genuine simplicity is a healing and cementing principle."

At the close of the sermon the 304th Hymn from *Hymns, Ancient and Modern*, "Crown Him with many crowns," was sung. During the singing a collection was made on behalf of the funds of Westminster Hospital, the plates being carried by the serjeant-at-arms, Mr. Ponsonby (the Speaker's secretary), eight members of Parliament, and the two churchwardens. The amount collected was one hundred and eighty-seven pounds. The service closed with the Hallelujah Chorus. The Archbishop of Canterbury pronounced the benediction, after which the Speaker and officers of the House marched in procession down the aisle. Members and others remained in their places till the Speaker had left the church, and then dispersed.

Numerous Jubilee commemorations in the form of banquets, assemblies, balls, and other festivities, were held by the members and representatives of various public bodies, societies, and institutions, but it would be beyond the scope of these pages to give accounts of them, for though they were of sufficient importance to engage attention, they were not strictly of a public character.

Amongst the earlier of these observances was a banquet on the 4th of June, in the central hall of the Royal Court of Justice,

attended by members of the bench and the bar and a large number of solicitors. On the 15th there was a grand ball and reception at the Reform Club in London, which was attended by the Prince of Wales and other members of the royal family, and a large number of distinguished visitors of all political parties. An event of greater public interest took place on the 14th of June, when eleven yachts entered for a Jubilee yacht race round the United Kingdom, starting from Southend. The smallest vessel was Lord F. Cecil's *Sleuth Hound*, a cutter of 32 tons, and the largest was Major Ewing's schooner *Gwendoline* of 192 tons. The Prince and Princess of Wales were at Southend and gave the signal for starting. The weather was too dense for a good race to be made during the whole voyage, but on the 27th Sir R. Sutton's yacht *Genesta* (85 tons), arrived at Dover at 5.15 in the morning, having completed the voyage round the kingdom (1590 miles) in twelve days sixteen hours and fifty-five minutes, and consequently winning the greater prize of a thousand guineas. The little *Sleuth Hound* reached Dover at 11.50 in the evening of the same day, and thereby won the £250 cup.

In some parts of the kingdom celebrations had already taken place, in time to permit the persons who took a leading part in them to be present in London at the great commemoration on the 21st of June. At Glasgow as early as the 16th there had been a great review of ten thousand men, regulars and volunteers, on Glasgow Green, and six thousand of the poor of the city had been entertained at dinner in the various halls.

On the 17th her Majesty arrived at Windsor from Balmoral, and on the same day the Prince and Princess of Wales were engaged in St. Giles's, London, laying the foundation-stone of a home for destitute boys, to be called "Shaftesbury House," as a suitable memorial of the noble philanthropist who had done so

much for the poor of the metropolis, and also as a commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. London was already in the midst of preparing for a celebration more extensive and magnificent than had ever been seen in the country. Our Sovereign Lady, attended by her children and her children's children, princes and princesses of her royal house, and of the imperial and royal houses who had formed alliances with them, would again appear in Westminster Abbey, there to join in prayer and thanksgiving after fifty years of a beneficent reign, distinguished by the loyal affection of her people and the signs of vast and continuous national progress, and the august assembly awaiting her on that occasion would include the sovereigns, princes, plenipotentiaries, and ambassadors of all the great countries of the world, bringing messages of honour and congratulation.

Among the principal royal and honoured guests invited by the Queen to take part in the celebration, with her own children and grandchildren, were—the King and Queen of the Belgians, the King of Denmark, the King of Saxony (a great friend of the late Prince Consort), the King of Greece, the Crown-princes of Austria and Sweden, the Crown-prince and Princess of Portugal, the Grand-duke Serge of Russia, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (brother of the late Prince Consort), and the princes and grand-dukes of other countries and states, nearly all of whom were connected with the royal house, either by relationship or marriage.

The Crown-prince and Princess of Germany had arrived in England on the 14th, and the Crown-prince having then recently undergone an operation for the disorder of the throat from which he was suffering, took up his residence at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, to which he had been recommended by his medical advisers.

Queen Kapiolani and Princess Liliuokalani of Hawaii, and their suite, resided at the Alexandra. Rooms were engaged by the Foreign Office for the Prince Devawongse Varopraka, brother of the King of Siam, and for Persian and Japanese royalties. His imperial highness Prince Komatsu, the uncle of the Mikado, and his highness Abu'n Nasr Miza Hissam us Sultaneh of Persia were among the number.

The Maharajah of Kuch Behar and a numerous suite were well provided for at the Grosvenor. Other Indian visitors of greater representative distinction were among the guests of the Queen, notably the Maharajah Holkar of Indore, and the Rao of Kutch, the Thakore sahibs of Morvi and Limri and of Gondal, and Maharaj Sir Pertab Singh, K.C.S.I. (representing his brother the Maharajah of Jodpore), the lordly delegates of the Sikh state of Kapenthalla, the deputations of great nobles of Hyderabad, representing the Nizam territory, and the envoy from Bhurtpore.

The special envoy from the Sultan was the former grand vizier, Edhem Pacha, and Monsignor Ruffo Scilla, the newly appointed nuncio at Munich, was the Pope's representative.

London was already in transformation, when on the evening of the 20th, her Majesty arrived at Buckingham Palace from Windsor. Old inhabitants of the vast metropolis were beginning to wonder what had become of certain well-known localities and familiar landmarks. The great throughfares through which the superb series of processions, and the final magnificent royal and imperial cortége, would pass to the ancient Abbey for the solemn celebration, were becoming glorious arcades, alive with shifting colour and the gleam of brilliant decorations. The superb extent of Regent Street, Piccadilly, and other principal highways, had begun to be lost in vistas of sumptuous drapery, gay flags, and gorgeous banners. Every statue and memorial, the fronts

of public buildings, and the porches or yards of churches, became objects of attraction, because of the concentration of ornament and colour which made each point of view a splendid trophy of the morrow's celebration.

The Queen had already made known her great gratification at the numbers of kind and loyal telegrams and addresses of congratulation which she continued to receive from public bodies and private individuals from all parts of the kingdom at home and abroad; and on the very morning of her arrival in London her Majesty had a foretaste of the magnificent welcome which awaited her. All day on the Sunday the streets had been filled with crowds of people who went to see the preparations for the Jubilee celebration, and those who were abroad early on Monday the 20th saw, with some surprise, that a vast throng of wayfarers, men, women, and children, of all ranks and classes, in vehicles or on foot, were making their way to Piccadilly, taking possession of Hyde Park and assembling on the eminence of Constitution Hill. Fathers and mothers were provided with bags and little baskets of provisions that they might make a day of it, and give the little ones a chance of seeing the Queen without the supposed danger and difficulty of witnessing the great spectacle of the morrow. It was noticed, too, not only that the people who formed that assembly in Hyde Park represented all social conditions, but that general courtesy, forbearance, and good-will were manifested in regard for the aged, for little children, and for the weak and comparatively helpless. Sturdy good-natured men passed old ladies, some of them poor old souls in workhouse garb, to the front. It was observed that the occupants of several of the handsome carriages which were drawn up in line would invite some weak woman or child to stand up on the step, or would give an eager trembling

sight-seer a seat on the box. Here and there a stalwart gentleman would be seen to lift a wistful urchin to his shoulder and hold him up that he might see his Sovereign Lady pass, and everywhere there was a ready and spontaneous desire to respect women and children and to give place to them, that they might not be disappointed of their loyal desire. Amidst a great multitude of all ranks and ages, in brilliant costumes or in poor attire, in carriages, on horseback, or on foot, swarming to every point of vantage, and massed in orderly and cheerful ranks all along the route that lay under the trees between the Marble Arch and Hyde Park Corner, her Majesty's home-coming was celebrated by the people of her great metropolis. Their voices rose in a mighty shout of greeting, as the Queen smiled and bowed her thanks, her face beaming with grateful appreciation of the loyalty that forestalled the great ceremonial, and said in unmistakable accents, "It is *you* we wait for, and having seen you we shall not be disappointed though we find no place in the great show of which you will be the central figure for millions who may be luckier than we."

Sunday had been a day of Jubilee thanksgiving. Throughout the country there had been religious services in great cathedrals, ancient minsters and churches, chapels, synagogues, and meeting-houses of every denomination, wherever a congregation assembled for worship. In fashionable streets and squares, in the dim districts of the poor, in cathedral cities rich with the splendour of Gothic art, or in humble villages where the architecture of the chapel was scarcely to be distinguished from that of the neighbouring barn, there had been devout and tender reference to the occasion which was uniting the hearts of the nation in thanksgiving for fifty years of beneficent rule, and for the countless blessings which the country had enjoyed

in the increase of national prosperity and the resistless growth of civil and religious liberty.

The morning of the Jubilee, the 21st of June, broke auspiciously. The weather was that of a delightful summer's day, with a cool breeze to mitigate the heat, to set flags and streamers gaily flying as the sun shone on the sumptuous decorations of the streets and the gleaming splendour of rich dresses and uniforms, and glinted in a thousand rays, in gold and silver accoutrements, in burnished arms, in lustrous ornaments and priceless jewels, when a series of processions of kings, princes, and ambassadors was passing to the grand old Abbey. The preparations at Westminster Abbey had included the construction of galleries and seats for between 9000 and 10,000 persons, and the sum of £17,000 had been voted by parliament for the expenses of the celebration. The service was fully choral, the great organ being played by Dr. Bridge the organist of the Abbey, supported by an orchestra which included bass instruments and drums. The choir consisted of three hundred voices, the singers having been recruited from the Abbey itself, and from the chapels royal, St. Paul's, and other churches.

The great procession of the day, that of the Queen and the royal family, was arranged to leave Buckingham Palace at half-past eleven. Preceded by a detachment of Life Guards, the royal huntsmen, foresters, and other attendants, with the master of the buckhounds, six royal carriages, drawn by pairs of bay horses, conveyed officers and ladies of the royal household and ladies and gentlemen in waiting. The last of these carriages was occupied by the Duchess of Buccleuch, mistress of the robes, the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Princess Margaret of Prussia, and the young Prince Alfred of Edinburgh; then followed a brilliant array of distinguished officers and

noblemen, appointed as equerries to the royal and imperial princes, and aides-de-camp to her Majesty the Queen. Next rode the equally brilliant head-quarter staff of the Duke of Cambridge, commander-in-chief; the aides-de-camp to his royal highness, and the chief administrative officers of the army; Major-general Sir R. Biddulph, G.C.M.G., C.B., Quartermaster-general; Major-general Harman, K.C.B., military secretary; and General the Viscount Wolseley, K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., adjutant-general. These immediately preceded four carriages each drawn by four bay horses conveying her Majesty's elder granddaughters, and the Duchesses of Connaught and Albany, the Duchess of Edinburgh, and the Princesses Christian, Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), and Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg).

Then preceded by the master of the horse, the Duke of Portland, came the splendid group which, next to the Queen herself, was the great attraction of the procession, the body-guard of seventeen princes in military uniform, superbly mounted and wearing their jewels and orders. They rode in the following order, three abreast and reckoning from left to right: the hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen, the Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, the Prince Louis of Battenberg, the Prince Henry of Prussia, the Prince George of Wales, the hereditary Grand-duke of Hesse, the Grand-duke Serge of Russia, the Prince Albert Victor of Wales, the Prince William of Prussia, the Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the Marquis of Lorne (who rode together when the procession first left the palace), the Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Crown-prince Frederick William of Germany, the Grand-duke of Hesse. The three sons of her Majesty, the Duke of Connaught, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Edinburgh, rode together, and were followed by the picturesque and splendidly accoutred

Orientals; the officers of the Indian contingent representing the finest cavalry in the Indian service and specially commanded to form an extra escort to her Majesty.

In the royal carriage, drawn by six cream-coloured horses, and attended by walking footmen, were the Princess Royal (the Crown-princess of Germany), the Princess of Wales, and our Sovereign Lady the Queen. The royal carriage was followed by two equerries-in-waiting and two other high officers, and immediately after them by the Duke of Cambridge, followed by a field-officer's escort. The spectacle of the body-guard of princes touched the chord of emotion. The three royal brothers, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Connaught were warmly cheered, the Prince of Wales, in field-marshall's uniform and mounted on his golden chestnut horse, receiving those hearty manifestations which always greet him, with that simple cheerful bonhomie which makes him ever popular. One prominent figure to which all eyes turned was the Crown-prince of Germany, the husband of our Princess Royal. Mounted on a magnificent bay charger, the property of the Queen, and wearing the white uniform and silver helmet of his Pomeranian regiment, and carrying his marshal's staff, he looked indeed a king of men, his stalwart form, clear frank expression, and commanding mien, proclaiming him to be one worthy of the genuine acclamation which greeted him as he rode by.

But throughout that marvellous journey the Queen was the central figure, the loved presence to whom all eyes were turned, and her advance was marked by loud and enthusiastic bursts of cheering. Her Majesty was deeply affected. With radiant looks she continued to bow right and left, and seemed to read in the faces of the people the signs of that loyal trust which made the day significant. It was noticed with what genuine

delight her Majesty's eldest daughter, who with the Princess of Wales was cheered to the echo, observed the grand tempest of loyal and affectionate enthusiasm which continued to the very door of the Abbey, where kings and princes, peers and prelates, waited to join with the royal house in prayer and thanksgiving.

Under the control of the accomplished organist of the Abbey the march from *Lohengrin*, given by desire of the Prince of Wales, the Pontifical march by Lemmens, and Benedict's "Marche des Templiers," had been played while the great personages were being conducted along the nave. Suddenly the march from Handel filled the building with thunderous melody, and the strains of the national anthem followed, telling the vast assembly that her Majesty was robing for the Abbey procession. At twenty-five minutes to one, from above the conductor's rostrum, the four state trumpeters blew a ringing blast upon their silver clarions.

The minor canons and the residentiary canons of Westminster, the Bishop of London, the Archbishop of York, the Dean of Westminster, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, went first, wearing rich vestments of the church. To them succeeded two heralds, Lancaster and Windsor, in blazoned tabards, and a group of court officials in full uniform. Then came the royal princes in splendid military array, the rear brought up by the Prince Imperial of Germany, the Dukes of Edinburgh and Connaught, and the Prince of Wales. Every king, prince, nobleman, and gentleman enrolled in the British orders of knighthood wore his full chivalric insignia. Garter king-of-arms was followed by the lord-steward and lord-chamberlain, immediately preceding her Majesty the Queen, who entered the choir to the sound of the national anthem, and accompanied only by her children and her children's children, and attended

by her great officers of state. Her Majesty, who looked remarkably well, and whose countenance literally beamed with happiness, wore black attire; but she also wore the insignia of many orders, and her head-dress of white lace, sparkling with diamonds, was more of a coiffure than a bonnet. As she passed up the choir into the chancel, and on to the dais, she made gracious and graceful inclinations to the spectators on either side. Conducted by the lord-chamberlain to her throne, she made a reverent obeisance to the altar, and when seated, until the service was concluded, was invisible to the prodigious concourse of her loyal subjects in the choir, but not to her family on either side, or to the clergy or to the royal personages in the sacrarium.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Dean of Westminster, and the Bishop of London officiated. The musical service was extremely solemn, grand, and affecting. The special music was partly selected by the Queen from the compositions of the late Prince Consort, and partly composed and arranged for the occasion by Dr. Bridge. After the responsive prayers and blessings by the precentor and choir, the solemn and devotional *Te Deum Laudamus* of the late Prince Consort written for soli, chorus, and orchestra, was finely performed. Three special and beautifully simple and appropriate prayers were then offered by the archbishop, and were followed by the people's prayer "Exaudiatur Dominus," to the 5th Gregorian tune; the dean then read the lesson, and after that came the anthem specially composed by Dr. Bridge, "Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on His throne to be king for the Lord thy God." In this fine performance the music of the national anthem appeared in the first chorus and again in the final portion. Two more prayers were then offered, and the

Queen, who with most of those present had been visibly affected, and had devotionally followed the words in the book which had been handed to her, bowed her head upon her hands as the benediction was pronounced, and the solemn celebration came to a close. Then followed the only demonstration which could have added to the ceremonial a simple grace otherwise unattainable. Each prince and princess of the royal family bowed before the Sovereign Lady, Queen and Mother, and kissed her hand, receiving in return an affectionate salute, and when the Crown-princess of Germany, the Princess Royal, approached, and bending low sank at her mother's feet and kissed her hand, the Queen raised her tenderly and repeatedly caressed her. Her Majesty embraced all the princes and princesses of her family with manifest emotion, and to complete the tenderness and pathos of the scene called back the Crown-prince and the Grand-duke of Hesse with a winning smile to confer upon them the privilege they had failed to receive or to claim. Her Majesty then made an obeisance to the foreign royalties who were on either side of the sacrarium, and this having been returned by them the organ played Mendelssohn's thrilling "March of the Priests" in *Athalic*, and the brilliant throng slowly receded and disappeared.

The illuminations at night were magnificent; but the splendour was not confined to London and its vast suburbs; every city and important town in the realm was lighted by devices which surpassed any previous achievements of the kind. It may be said, too, that on that evening (for there was no night, but only a soft and tranquil twilight) the British Isles were ringed with festal fire to celebrate the Jubilee of their Sovereign Lady. On rugged cliffs and beacon hills, on mountain peaks and lofty heaths and commons, great bonfires blazed. From the

Scuir in Eigg and the far Orkneys to Plinlimmon and Llanbyther—from the Cathedral at Ely to Shillelagh and the Dunran Mountain in Wicklow—flame after flame leaped up in answer to the signal rocket-flight and the great flare from the Worcestershire beacon on the Malvern Hills, 1400 feet above the level of the sea. Skiddaw and Scafell, Snowdon, Cader Idris, and Plinlimmon, from their greater heights blazed forth in answering flame, and soon from a thousand places—some, like Hampstead Heath, great open spaces commanding a populous district, and others amidst lonely crags overlooking the sea, or on steep mountain sides—the bonfires broke alight and burned till dawn.

On the 22d her Majesty held a reception at which were presented the Jubilee gifts sent from the Continent and the British colonies. Her Majesty next received a deputation of about three hundred noble and distinguished ladies to present the Women's Jubilee Offering, the result of contributions by above three millions of women in the United Kingdom, and amounting to over £75,000, a sum which it was expected would reach to £80,000 before the lists were closed. With the gift was presented an address on vellum fringed with gold and adorned with the royal arms, the dates 1837 1887, and the arms of the chief cities. Her Majesty afterwards received Jubilee gifts from royal and princely visitors and deputations representing artistic and other societies and corporations, those of the royal donors being personally presented. The Queen accompanied by her daughters and other members of the royal family afterwards inspected the presents with great interest, and thanked those to whom she had not previously expressed her acknowledgments.

The Queen was to return to Windsor in the evening, but

on her way to Paddington station had to fulfil an engagement to be present at one of the most suggestive and remarkable of all the Jubilee celebrations.

For some months previously Mr. Edward Lawson, one of the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, had, through the columns of that journal, announced the intention of organizing a great fête in Hyde Park for representative school children of the metropolis.

He and his co-proprietors had commenced with a large contribution, others followed daily in sums from three figures in pounds to one figure in pence. The Prince of Wales consented to be president of the scheme; a committee and assistant committees of ladies of distinction were formed; the Rev. Mr. Diggle, the chairman of the London School Board, undertook the selection of children from Board and Voluntary schools; and the result of the active interest and complete organization was that on this day, the 22d of June, about 27,000 children, boys and girls, many of them little more than infants, were safely and happily assembled in Hyde Park, on the space of ground from the drive on the north of the Serpentine to the north of the park skirted on the east by the trees that shadow the roadway leading to the Marble Arch. It is significant that a large number, probably the majority, of the ladies who had presented the women's memorial to the Queen, were on the grounds to receive the children in the ten large marquees where they were to be provided with refreshments. The whole space was marked off with venetian masts, and about three thousand police, and squadrons of life-guards and foot-guards had been on the alert to see the little ones safely to their destination, and to keep the ground when they arrived.

The ten marquees were presided over by the Duchess of

Manchester, the Duchess of Abercorn, the Countess of Rosebery, the Duchess of Westminster, Mrs. Lawson, the Countess Spencer, Lady Rothschild, the Countess of Lathom, Lady Randolph Churchill, and Lady Hayter, each of whom was helped in her laborious but still pleasant task by eleven other ladies and twelve gentlemen. On arriving at the park the various contingents of children were conducted to these tents in bodies of two hundred and fifty, and there each child was supplied with a cup of milk, lemonade, or ginger-beer, and given a bag containing a meat-pie, a square of cake, a bun, and an orange, which they passed out of the tent to consume, till all were supplied and the tables cleared of the *débris*, and furnished with cooling drinks which any child might have for the asking. Amusements were provided without limit, including twenty Punch and Judy shows, eight marionette theatres, eighty-six cosmoramic views and peep-shows, nine troupes of performing dogs, ponies, and monkeys, hundreds of Aunt Sallies and knock-'em-downs, a hundred large lucky dip barrels, a thousand skipping-ropes with "Jubilee handles," ten thousand small balloons. Forty-two thousand toys were distributed at the different centres where the amusements were going on, and the children were further gratified by the presentation to each of a Jubilee medal, and by the spectacle of a balloon ascent by Mr. W. Dale, who placed at the disposal of the committee his new balloon the "Victoria Park." The Prince of Wales, chairman of the committee, accompanied by the Princess, arrived shortly after four o'clock. The massed bands played the national anthem as the Queen entered the park at a quarter to six amidst the cheers of enormous crowds. Previously to her Majesty's departure from the palace the children had fallen in and marched with the bands to their stations along the line down which the Queen was to drive.

The royal party, which included the Crown-prince and Princess of Germany and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, was escorted by a troop of Life Guards and a troop of Indian cavalry. Her Majesty drove slowly down the line, and as soon as she reached the flagstaff in front of the pavilion the royal standard was hoisted and the bands struck up "God Save the Queen," the children singing one verse in unison. Her Majesty was presented by Miss Lawson with a bouquet of beautiful orchids, the holder of which bore the inscription: "Not Queen alone; but Mother, Queen, and Friend in one!" The special ceremony of the afternoon then took place, in the shape of the presentation of a memorial cup to a little girl who commenced her attendance at the St. Mary's Western National School, Marylebone, in 1880, when five years of age, and had never missed a single attendance for seven years. Her Majesty graciously spoke a few words of congratulation to the diligent scholar, who was brought to the side of the carriage, and then handed her a Jubilee mug, manufactured by Messrs. Doulton, and embellished with portraits of her Majesty in 1837 and 1887, the ceremony symbolizing the presentation of similar memorial Jubilee mugs, which had been handed to all the others earlier in the afternoon. After a few seconds there was a blast of trumpets, intimating that the presentation by the Queen had been made, and a flag signal evoked a very creditable performance of two verses of the "Old Hundredth," "All people that on earth do dwell," by the assembled children. Immediately afterwards, at a similar flag signal, "Rule Britannia" was commenced, and continued until her Majesty had driven out of the park. Subsequently, the first verse of "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was sung with admirable vigour and effect, accompanied by the bells; and finally the last verse of the national

anthem was given, this being practically the signal that the *fête* was over. The children were then marched out with their friends and teachers, and all were conveyed home without a single serious accident.

Her Majesty reached Slough at half-past six, and, after being received there by the Lord-lieutenant and the High-sheriff of Bucks, entered her carriage to drive through Eton to Windsor, accompanied by the Crown-princess of Germany, the Princess Christian, and the Duke of Edinburgh; while in other carriages were the Princess Louise, the Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duke of Coburg, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, the Princess Victoria of Prussia, and the suite. The provost of Eton, the head-master, the vice-provost, and most of the fellows, together with the principal assistant masters and the captains of the school, were waiting to receive her Majesty and to present addresses. The old college was adorned with picturesque decorations, the company was very select, and the demonstrations of loyalty very enthusiastic, and the Queen received and replied to the addresses with evident pleasure. The royal cortége was followed to Windsor by the Eton volunteers and students.

On the dais, at the foot of the band-stand facing the memorial statue on the Castle Hill, were the Grand-duke of Hesse and his son, and the Princesses Irene and Alice, Prince Christian, Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, and other invited guests; and near the statue were Sir H. L. Simpson, the mayor of Windsor, and other gentlemen; and the mayoress and other ladies, who carried exquisite bouquets for presentation to the Queen and the princesses. "Home, Sweet Home" and "Auld Lang Syne" were played by the band of the Coldstreams on the Castle

Hill. In replying to an address from the Jubilee Committee, her Majesty said: "I am deeply touched by the gratifying and endearing evidence which this work of art affords of your attachment to my throne and person. It is particularly pleasing to me that this memorial should have been erected by the inhabitants of this neighbourhood, among whom so much of my reign has been spent and so many events of my life have occurred." The representatives of the parishes contributing to the Jubilee fund were presented to her Majesty, and by the direction of Prince Christian, the Lord High-steward of Windsor, the statue was unveiled by the chairman of the sub-committee, amidst a flourish of trumpets, a "ruffle" of drums, and the ringing of bells.

At night the royal burgh was splendidly illuminated, and the castle itself made a grand and imposing appearance, but the most beautiful spectacle was provided by the torchlight procession of the Eton students—Eton volunteers in gray undress uniform, and companies of boys in alternate blue and white, altogether about nine hundred, bearing torches and Chinese lanterns. The procession marched, with the bands of the Royal Horse Guards and the Coldstreams, to the quadrangle, where a large company had assembled. The boys formed the centre of the square joining the corridor, and on the appearance of the Queen and the court at the open windows sang "God save the Queen" accompanied by the band, the volunteers forming the letters V. R. with torches and lanterns. Other figures, "the Rose" and the "Union Jack," were formed in the same manner with the coloured lanterns, and as each figure dissolved the boys sang their boating song, a special Jubilee song, composed for the occasion, with a truly jubilant chorus of "Victoria! Victoria! Victoria! our Queen!"

and the famous “Carmen Etonense.” Then all the boys formed up in column, and advanced in quick time, bands playing and drums beating with the song in unison:

Post lustra decem
Salve Regina
Mater vera Patriæ;
Regina Salve
Victoria.

Then came three cheers, the bands playing the national anthem, and the last march past, the boys in the quadrangle retiring, and the sounds of the music becoming fainter as the two companies on the slope of the Round Tower formed themselves, with their torches and lanterns, into a brilliant “Good-night.” When all was still the Queen said to the head-master of Eton, the Rev. Dr. Edward Warre, “I am very grateful for the welcome you have given me, and sincerely thank you for this beautiful sight.”

It need scarcely be said that the vast assembly in Hyde Park represented only a contingent of the great body of school children in London and the immediate suburbs, and organizations had been formed to give Jubilee treats to many thousands of those who had not been included on that occasion. A large number of children were entertained in the Temple Gardens, and again the Drapers’ Company generously came forward and provided delightful entertainments at the People’s Palace, first for ten thousand girls, and on the following day for ten thousand boys, of the schools of Hackney and the Tower Hamlets.

At Windsor the Jubilee festivities were continued by the entertainment of six thousand children. The Queen drove to the park to see them on her way to an inspection of suburban and provincial volunteer fire brigades, in which above a thousand

men took part, and afterwards passed in a very fine torchlight procession, carrying coloured fires.

Of the more solemn celebrations, the Jubilee thanksgiving service held at St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23d, and attended by the lord-mayor and corporation, the civic officials and court of lieutenancy, and the masters and wardens of companies, was among the most remarkable, Dr. Stainer, who conducted the musical service, having chosen Handel's "Dettingen Te Deum," with a great choir of three hundred voices and an orchestral band of fifty-four instruments.

The earnest and enthusiastic celebration of the Jubilee, and the vast number of letters and messages of loyal congratulation which had come from all parts of the world, had deeply affected the Queen, who, on the 24th of June, issued the following letter to her subjects by means of a supplement to the *London Gazette*:—

“WINDSOR CASTLE, June 24, 1887.

“I am anxious to express to my people my warm thanks for the kind, and more than kind, reception I met with on going to and returning from Westminster Abbey, with all my children and grandchildren.

“The enthusiastic reception I met with then, as well as on all these eventful days, in London as well as in Windsor, on the occasion of my Jubilee, has touched me most deeply. It has shown that the labour and anxiety of fifty long years, twenty-two of which I spent in unclouded happiness shared and cheered by my beloved husband, while an equal number were full of sorrows and trials, borne without his sheltering arm and wise help, have been appreciated by my people.

“This feeling, and the sense of duty towards my dear country and subjects who are so inseparably bound up with my life, will encourage me in my task—often a very difficult and arduous one—during the remainder of my life.

“The wonderful order preserved on this occasion, and the good

behaviour of the enormous multitudes assembled, merits my highest admiration.

"That God may protect and abundantly bless my country is my fervent prayer.

"VICTORIA R. AND I."

The celebrations which took place in London during the last week in June may be said to have closed with a ball given by the lord-mayor, the sheriffs, and the corporation of the city at the Guildhall on the 28th. The occasion was one of great magnificence. The King and Queen of the Belgians, the King of Denmark, the King of Saxony, the King of the Hellenes, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the royal family, with a number of princely and noble visitors and distinguished guests assembled. There were between four and five thousand persons present, and the proverbial hospitality of the city was displayed in a manner which could scarcely have been surpassed.

The Queen herself held a garden party at Buckingham Palace on the 29th, which was attended by the royal guests and above five thousand persons of distinction who were honoured with invitations. On her way from Paddington to Buckingham Palace her Majesty visited Kensington, the place so intimately associated with the early years of her life, and where she had received the news of her accession.

On the 30th her Majesty was again at Windsor, where a court was held to receive personal congratulations and addresses from Indian chiefs, deputations from native Indian states, from the municipal corporations of Calcutta and Bombay, and from the inhabitants of the presidency of Madras, the latter address having been adopted and signed at a hundred and ninety-one towns on behalf of thirty-two millions of her Majesty's subjects.

The court was an important and splendid assembly, at which the Queen conferred orders and medallions on several of the Indian princes and representatives, some of whom had brought presents to her Majesty, notably his highness the Thakore Sahib of Morvi, who rode up to the royal entrance in the quadrangle and presented a fully-caparisoned charger, to receive which her Majesty descended from the Green Drawing-room to the quadrangle on the termination of the ceremonies.

Nearly every day brought some solemn or courtly ceremony and some state observance or festivity, and on the 2d July there was again a meeting of illustrious guests at Buckingham Palace, where the Queen witnessed the march past of 28,000 of the volunteers of the metropolis. The military procession was headed by the staff of the home districts, followed by the Prince of Wales and his staff, the Prince being captain-general of the Horse Artillery company, which took the *pas*, and was followed by the Royal Naval Volunteers headed by Lieutenant-commander Sir Allen Young, C.B.

Monday the 4th of July had been appointed for the important and significant ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the building of the Imperial Institute. The stone was to be laid in the place which was the site of the central avenue of the previous Exhibitions, near the entrance to the structure known as "Old London," the building being intended to face southward upon a new roadway running through from Exhibition Road and Queen's Gate near where the main Indian court was situated in 1886. A vast and sumptuous pavilion had been erected in the grounds to hold about 10,000 persons, and it was crowded, the scene presenting bright and lively characteristics resembling those of similar assemblies already described. The Queen arrived at Paddington from Windsor at about noon,

and the royal cortége consisted of seven open carriages, the first four conveying lords and ladies in waiting, and the last three the hereditary Grand-duke of Hesse and Prince Henry of Battenberg, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Princesses Irene and Alix of Hesse, and the Grand-duke of Hesse, Princess Beatrice, Princess Christian and the Queen. At the scene of the day's ceremonial, the vestibule and the apartments to which it led were in themselves a wonderful spectacle, the superb banks of moss and ferns, the exquisitely fresh flowers, especially in the inner vestibule where all was reflected in mirrors making a fairy-like and beautiful effect. The corridor of striped canvas, with snow-white roof and adorned with palms and flags, led at once to the pavilion, where the vast multitude assembled in every variety of uniform and costume had an imposing effect, the pavilion resembling a great amphitheatre with an immense arena and thirty tiers of seats from floor to ceiling. Every occupant, it was believed, could see the centre of the great space where stood the scarlet dais and the scarlet and gold canopied throne. To this throne came our Sovereign Lady surrounded by members of her family and officers of state and the royal household, to the sound of the music of a great orchestra and a chorus. The Prince of Wales read an address briefly setting forth the intentions and hopes of the promoters of an institution which should be a fitting memorial of the love and loyalty of her Majesty's subjects throughout the empire. To this her Majesty replied, expressing the belief and hope that the Imperial Institute would play a useful part in combining the resources of the empire for the common advantage, and in conducting towards the welding of the colonies, India, and the mother country into one harmonious and united community. After the performance of an ode written by

Mr. Lewis Morris and set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, the Queen, assisted by the Prince of Wales and the architect, laid the stone, consisting of a block of colonial granite of over three tons weight, and after suitable prayers had been offered by the Archbishop of Canterbury, received an address from the royal commissioners of the 1851 Exhibition, and then was conducted by the Prince of Wales to her carriage amidst the cheers of that vast assembly and the strains of "Rule Britannia." Her Majesty with the Prince and Princess of Wales, members of the royal family, and many of the distinguished company, proceeded to the Albert Hall to present the prizes gained by successful juvenile competitors for essays on "Kindness to Animals," the prizes having been awarded by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

On the 9th of July, the date announced for the grand review by her Majesty at Aldershot, several of the royal and noble guests had departed, but a number remained to be present. Her Majesty had gone down on the previous evening and spent the night at the Royal Pavilion, from the windows of which she watched the arrival of the Guards and the movements of the troops before the review, the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Connaught scanning the men as they passed. At a little after eleven the royal carriages left the Pavilion for the saluting point amidst enthusiastic demonstrations of loyalty. The royal standard was hoisted, the royal salute was given, the troops presented arms, and the massed bands played the national anthem. The 56,000 men and 102 guns, representing the force which was present, included a large contingent of volunteer reserve forces, and the Duke of Cambridge, who rode up to her Majesty's carriage, presented an address including those forces with the army in expressions of love and devotion.

The Queen accepted the address, to which in her reply she referred in terms of sincere appreciation, declaring her continued confidence in the gallantry and self-devotion of the army, and in the able co-operation of the auxiliary forces, but ending by saying: "However confident I may feel in the valour and endurance of my troops, there is no blessing which I at this season more earnestly ask of Almighty God to extend to my people, during the remainder of my reign, than that of peace."

The duke then retired to his place in front of the troops, and taking off his helmet led the cheers which the men gave with extraordinary effect. The march past, performed with admirable precision, occupied nearly three hours. Then the cavalry and horse artillery, who had formed on the ridge to the east of the Long valley, advanced towards the Queen in one magnificent line of a mile in length. The pace was gradually increased to a gallop, the beat of the horses' hoofs reverberating in the valley. At a hundred yards from the line of the stands the men were suddenly halted, and in perfect order saluted their Sovereign Lady, the fifty thousand spectators on the hillsides applauding rapturously this brilliant spectacle, which brought the review to a close, as the Queen and the royal party with its escort withdrew, passing through an avenue formed by the infantry.

On the 14th her Majesty was engaged at Windsor in the pleasing ceremony of laying the foundation-stone for the statue of the late Prince Consort, which was to form part of the memorial representing the gift of the women and girls of her Majesty's dominions. In an inclosure where the ceremony was to take place was a dais with chair of state, and stands were erected with seats for the ladies who represented the organization of the memorial. On a table covered with yellow cloth was

spread a piece of Eastern embroidered work on which was inscribed an address from the women of Burmah, who had sent 15,000 rupees to the fund, a curious inlaid casket, and a sacred Buddhist red and gold chest inclosing the names of the signatories to the address.

Her Majesty had addressed the following letter to the contributors to the Women's Jubilee Offering on the occasion of the presentation of the gift:—

“WINDSOR CASTLE, June 22, 1887.

“I am anxious to express to all the women of Great Britain and Ireland how deeply gratified I am by their very kind and generous present. I thank them all most warmly for it, and shall value their gift of the statue of my beloved husband very highly, as a touching remembrance of this interesting and never-to-be-forgotten day, and of their great loyalty and affection.

“VICTORIA R. AND I.”

During a whole month the Jubilee celebrations in which the Queen took a personal part had rapidly succeeded each other, and the last and not the least imposing of them took place on the 23d of July. The spectacle of the gathering of the great British fleet at Spithead was by many persons considered to be a pageant more vast and suggestive than any of the gilded shows of state or the splendid processions that had flashed through the streets. It was calculated that about thirty thousand spectators were afloat in all kinds of craft in Portsmouth roadstead; and the crews of the ships actually engaged in the review would have increased the number to fifty thousand persons afloat at Spithead.

The fleet was moored so as to form a double line of great ships, the centre of which was nearly opposite Gillicker Point on the north, and Ryde pier on the south. Between it and Portsmouth

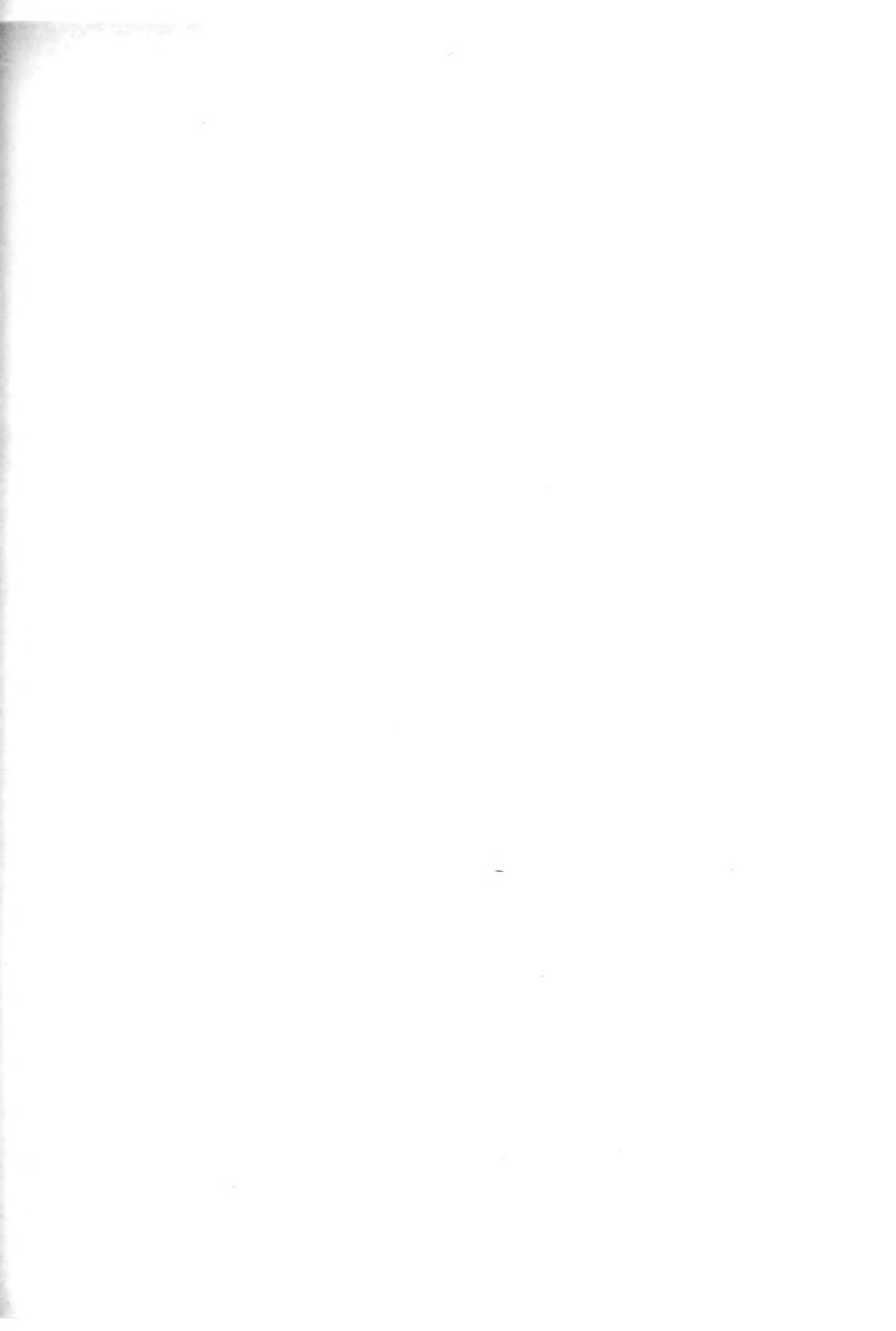
was a double line of coast-defence ships, gunboats, and torpedo boats. The vessels comprising the squadrons were anchored about a quarter of a mile apart, the space between the two columns being rather greater. Troopships with visitors and numbers of steamers and yachts were to the south of the squadrons. The total fleet numbered 135 vessels, consisting of 26 armoured and 9 unarmoured ships, 3 torpedo cruisers, 1 torpedo gun-boat, 1 gun and torpedo vessel, 38 first-class torpedo boats, 38 gunboats, 12 troopships, 1 paddle frigate, and 6 training brigs, the complement of officers and men being 20,200, and there was a total of 500 guns.

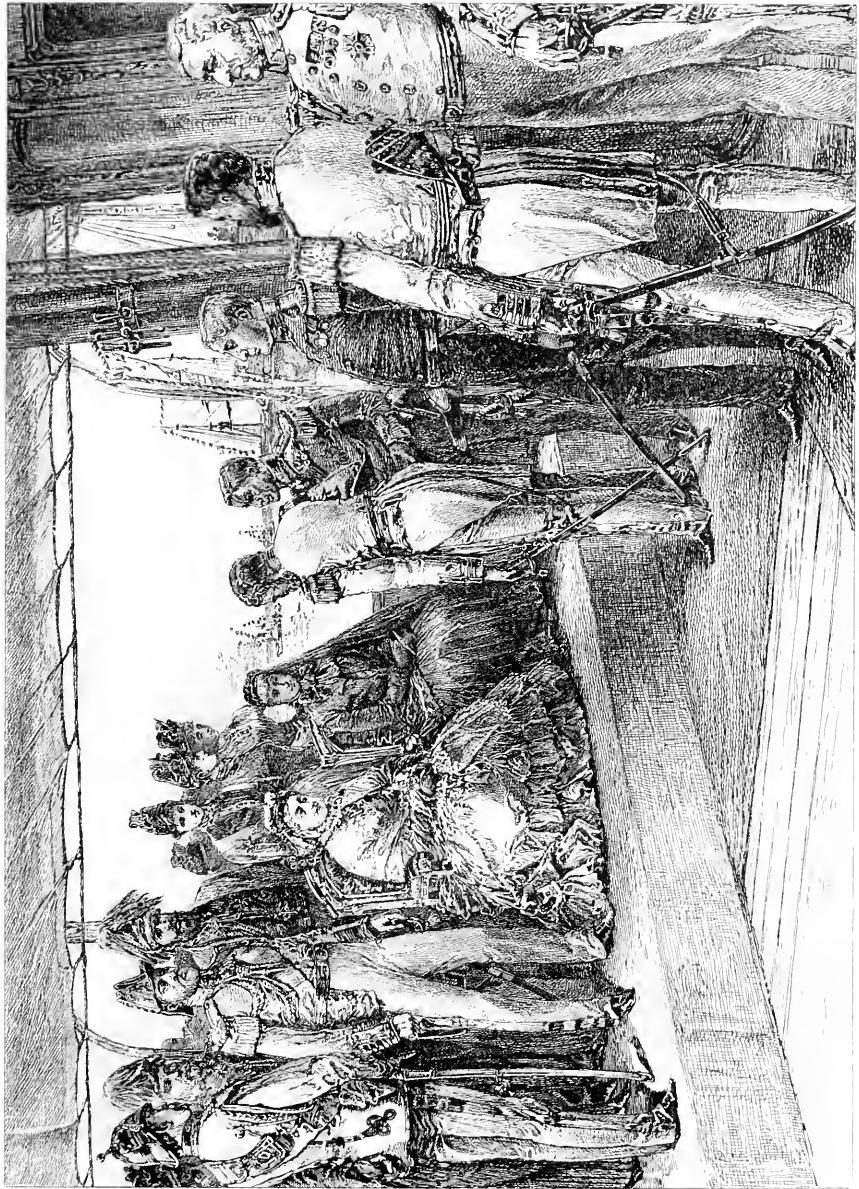
The Queen, accompanied by the Crown-prince and Princess of Germany and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, embarked on board the *Victoria and Albert* soon after three in the afternoon, the royal yacht being followed by the *Osborne* and by a procession of yachts and boats forming a royal flotilla, conveying the Prince and Princess of Wales, and a great company of royal and distinguished visitors. The procession was itself a beautiful sight, every vessel bearing flags significant of the rank of the passengers on board. The entire fleet saluted her Majesty, each ship firing twenty-one guns; and as the royal yacht passed, the yards of the masted vessels, and the turrets, breastwork, and decks of the unmasted vessels were manned by the crews, the marines stood at attention on the poops, the officers occupied their respective conspicuous positions, and the crews cheered with a vigour that at a distance made the thousands of voices sound like the breaking of the sea on a reef. The whole effect was inexpressibly grand.

The end of the long line having been reached, a wide sweep was made to the east before the royal flotilla returned, and after a little delay to enable the Queen to look upon the

whole splendid spectacle, reached the centre of the fleet, where her Majesty ordered the ships in the procession to anchor, and directed signals to be hoisted summoning the commanders of all the vessels to attend on board the royal yacht. Opposite the Queen lay the *Inflexible*, the flagship for the admiral (Admiral Willes), fitted with engines of 8000 horse-power, armed with four 80-ton guns in her turrets, eight light guns, four quick-firing and seventeen machine-guns, and three torpedo-tubes. Near her was anchored the *Collingwood*, a vessel of the new *Admiral* class, with engines of 9570 horse-power, capable of attaining a speed of eighteen or nineteen miles an hour, and armed with four guns of 43 tons and six of lesser weight, and with twelve quick-firing guns and four torpedo-tubes; while on either side were to be seen some of the most powerful vessels afloat.

After the official portion of the review was over, when the Queen had steamed back to Osborne and the ships had been undressed of their flags, the inhabitants of Portsmouth were treated to one of the most beautiful spectacles it is possible to imagine. An eye-witness has recorded that "at a signal-rocket sent up from the flag-ship, a ribbon of fire was drawn around the vessels of every sort that formed the fleet. At another signal from the *Inflexible*, thousands of rockets, sent up from every quarter, filled the air, while ship after ship shone forth outlined in red and blue fires. Sometimes the rockets soared into the air, and the red and blue fires burnt from this side and from that, apparently just as fancy dictated; then suddenly, as by a common understanding, a whole line of battleships would blaze out in one concerted glare of red flame, or a general eruption of fire-balls would rise from the whole fleet. Last of all came the most weird spectacle of the whole display.





[Engraving by H. H. Tanner]

THE QUEEN RECEIVING THE CAPTAINS OF THE FLEET ON BOARD THE ROYAL YACHT
SPITHEAD 23rd JULY 1857



As if to remind the spectators on shore that what they were watching with such pleasure was, in reality, not playthings, but the most terrible engines of destruction, the great ironclads turned their electric lights full upon the shore, and showed how that keen and searching glare could make all that came within its scope as visible as if it were daylight."

The celebrations, particulars of which we have been considering, represent those which were observed in almost every city and township of the United Kingdom. It would of course be impossible, even if it would be interesting, to give the details of the multitude of commemorations, their variety being only such as arose from peculiar social customs or legendary peculiarities, or from the opportunities offered by imposing cathedrals, churches, and public edifices, military stations, piers, harbours, and great public works. But in almost every case the celebrations were prominently, if not pre-eminently, associated with beneficence—with acts of widely extending charity.

At Edinburgh the festivities may be said to have commenced as early as the 13th, with banquets and assemblies of collegiate, mercantile, and public institutions, and the despatch of addresses of loyal congratulation to the Queen. The public celebrations on Jubilee day commenced with a grand thanksgiving service in the church of St. Giles, attended by high officials and representatives of public bodies, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod. A review was held in the Queen's Park, at which about 50,000 spectators were present. At night there was a great bonfire on Arthur's Seat, a splendid display of fireworks was seen from the Calton Hill, and there was a very effective torchlight procession of students. An address from the royal and parliamentary burghs of Scotland was sent to her Majesty. Both in Edinburgh and Glasgow the

celebrations may be said to have continued after the date at which the chief observances were held, and treats to great numbers of children, provision of dinners and entertainments to the poor, and festivities of a more or less public character marked the loyalty and good-will which were inseparably associated with the great occasion.

The chief celebration in Glasgow was held on the 16th, commencing with a religious service in the Cathedral in which the minister, the Rev. Dr. Burns, was assisted by the Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod, and eminent representatives of the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church. The music was performed by the Glasgow Choral Union. Above six thousand of the deserving poor were provided with dinners in the various halls, and at the grand review on Glasgow Green the forces of regulars and volunteers numbered about ten thousand. The city was gaily decorated, and in the evening was for the most part brilliantly illuminated, while high-class music was performed by excellent bands in the public parks and squares. In Aberdeen, Jubilee day was celebrated by similar rejoicings, the occasion being associated with the inauguration of a new peal of bells in St. Nicholas' tower above the East and West Churches, and with the augmentation to £30,000 of a fund for the extension of the Royal Infirmary.

Throughout Scotland the commemorations were of the same loyal and hearty kind, and the bonfires and beacons which glowed on peak and hill and distant mountain added greatly to the sense of the Jubilee being observed as a great national festival.

The same must be said of the whole kingdom, where the principal towns only represented the manifestation of the general loyal enthusiasm, in which villages and hamlets vied

to express one universal sentiment; and both in towns and villages, where the public bodies were not rich enough to spend much money on decorations and public festivities, or had contributed most of the fund to the establishment or maintenance of charitable and benevolent institutions, some wealthy and generous nobleman, mayor, or public personage gathered around him a few fellow-workers, and by his own contribution provided a large part of the entertainments or memorials.

It may be mentioned, also, that in numerous cases where no local benevolent or educational foundation was inaugurated, larger Jubilee contributions were made to the Imperial Institute.

In Ireland, in the north, at Belfast, Armagh, and other towns, the Jubilee was celebrated with abundant enthusiasm; and in Dublin the day was loyally observed as a holiday, the streets were gaily decorated, and at night many of the public buildings were illuminated, while crowds of people peaceably assembled and promenaded the chief thoroughfares. There were special thanksgiving services in Christ Church and St. Patrick's Cathedrals which were attended by large congregations, and there were sports at Balls Bridge which attracted a great concourse of people. These, however, were but observances preliminary to the celebrations which took place on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of June, on the visit of the Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales, for whose arrival extensive preparations were made. The presence of the princes in the capital was the occasion of manifestations of loyalty by visitors from various parts of Ireland, and the welcome given to her Majesty's grandsons was marked by various festivities, the reception of numerous deputations and addresses, the installation of Prince Albert Victor as a knight of St. Patrick, a superb review in the Phoenix Park, attended by about sixty thousand spectators,

and, in accordance with the spirit everywhere manifested in commemorating the Jubilee, the laying of the foundation-stone of a new wing of the hospital for incurables at Donnybrook, and the opening of two new ("Jubilee") wards of the Children's Hospital in Harcourt Street.

In Welsh towns and villages, and in the Isle of Man at Ramsey, there were commemorations as joyous and as loyal as amidst the teeming populations of Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, Nottingham, Birmingham, and the great manufacturing towns. In all alike there was feasting; and in many places of historical interest there were quaint processions, rustic sports, and innocent merriment, tempered by a thought of the solemn thanksgiving services and the sacred music which inaugurated the celebrations.

From John o' Groats to Land's End, from bonnie Carlisle to Portland Bill and the lovely and loyal Isle of Wight, from Norwich spires to Anglesey and beautiful Beaumaris, one jubilant shout of congratulation and thanksgiving arose, and the name of our Sovereign Lady was spoken with reverence and deep regard amidst celebrations more varied, more ardent, and with deeper sense of their true meaning than had ever before been experienced. Looking upon a map of the United Kingdom, not one smallest spot or circle representing a community can be discerned which does not represent a Jubilee celebration, the foremost features of which were care for the aged, the poor, the sick, the suffering, and for the countless multitudes of school children who are to be the men and women of the immediate future.

Nor were ardent manifestations of affection and loyalty limited to the inhabitants of the British Isles, or of British possessions. In foreign lands where Britons formed even a

small community, the Jubilee of the reign of our Sovereign Lady was commemorated by festive celebrations, frequently associated with acts of charity and beneficence. More than this, it is to be recorded that in almost every part of the world where loyal Britons assembled to honour their Queen, the native inhabitants of these places joined them in festive demonstrations and cordial expressions of good-will to the British sovereign. At every capital, and at almost every important city and town in Europe,—at Constantinople,—at Cairo, where people of all creeds and nationalities joined in the commemorations,—at Alexandria, where the khedive and high officials attended the Jubilee services and held special celebrations,—at Suakim, where the natives also participated in the festival,—at Yokohama in Japan, where there were great fêtes and splendid illuminations,—at Shanghai and at Hong-Kong, where, though the jubilation was deferred till the 28th of the month, a permanent memorial statue of the Queen was erected,—the Jubilee was celebrated with unflagging enthusiasm.

In the United States, the cordial congratulations of the great nation who are of our own blood and race rose to the height of a joint observance of the Jubilee with the British residents in the chief cities and towns of the country. No Englishman can with complacency speak of Americans as foreigners, or think of them as such, and their hearty sympathy, the graceful and courteous message of their President to our Sovereign Lady, their genuine appreciation of her virtues and outspoken admiration of her character, were expressed in one common language. At Washington the British minister invited the diplomatic body to a banquet in honour of the Jubilee. At Chicago there was a celebration banquet at the Grand Pacific Hotel. At Pittsburg there were festivities in which about 10,000 people participated,

and at Boston there was a great Jubilee meeting at the Faneuil Hall. But it was at New York that most of the British residents in the United States united in holding a celebration which was the more imposing because of the cordial support and sympathy of many leading Americans.

On the Sunday afternoon there was a religious musical service in Trinity Church, where Bishop Potter, with a large number of the clergy, officiated, and a great congregation assembled. In the Church of the Heavenly Rest the Rev. Dr. Parker Morgan preached a sermon from the text: "A woman that feareth the Lord she shall be praised," in which he said that our Sovereign Lady was one who, regarded as Queen or woman, would be spoken of with affection and respect to the end of history. "God save the Queen" was played on the organ at the conclusion of the service, and all present were much affected. There were Jubilee services at other churches in New York and Brooklyn, and on the 21st a special service was held in the Metropolitan Opera House, the largest theatre in New York, where a vast audience assembled, including a large number of well-known and distinguished public men, Mr. Erastus Winan, president of the Canadian Club, presiding. The service was opened with Handel's Coronation Anthem, and after prayer, Mr. Winan delivered an address which was warmly applauded. Mr. Seth Low, ex-mayor of Brooklyn, speaking on behalf of the Americans, was enthusiastically received. In the course of his address he said, speaking of the Queen:

"She has been in all these years a perfect type of queen, ruler, and woman—a Victoria, not a Hecuba. The throne in her keeping has been safe, because the throne has been beloved. Her crown of womanhood is brighter than her diadem of Empress. She has been obedient to duty, both public and private. Well may she receive the profound

congratulations, the heartfelt and best wishes of all true Americans. Well may her people expect that we should rejoice with them, as we do rejoice. From every clime there goes up to-day a mighty chorus of congratulation and good-will. Grateful for her friendship when America needed it, grateful for her ready sympathy in our joys and sorrows, we, the American people, glad for all that gives her happiness, join with you to-day from ocean to ocean in your own earnest prayer—‘God save the Queen.’”

Mr. Hewitt, who was called upon to speak, said:

“I am introduced as Mayor of New York, but I am not here as Mayor of New York, but as an American citizen, in whose veins blood is thicker than water. In the hour of our trial, when the flag under whose broad folds I was born was trailing in the dust, as a humble citizen it was my fortune to resort to another land on matters of great moment. There I learnt—and I know whereof I speak—that we owed to the Queen of England the non-intervention policy which characterized the great powers of the world during our great struggle for life and death.

“I had no purpose to open my lips on this occasion, but when you call upon me for a testimony to her who was our friend, as she is your Queen, my lips ought to be palsied if I were such a coward as not to do it.”

The address from British, Irish, and Canadian residents of New York, expressing the deepest respect and regard for her Majesty, was adopted by the meeting.

The very superscription of the address suggests that Dominion of Canada, the people of which, as subjects of her Majesty, had their own loyalty to express, their own Jubilee celebrations to observe. At Halifax, St. John, Toronto, Ottawa, and all the cities and towns of the maritime provinces, there were commemorations and festivities lasting two days. At Halifax there were military and naval reviews, an art exhibition, a grand ball, and a treat to 10,000 school children. The

Jubilee was celebrated throughout Manitoba and the North-west, and in Victoria, British Columbia. At Toronto there were also varied celebrations, and Big Sun, chief of the Mohawks, sent to the Queen the congratulations of the tribe.

Away down south, and at Sierra Leone, the British residents celebrated the Jubilee with a truly vigorous loyalty, and Cape Town represented on its own account the enthusiasm of all the principal towns of South Africa. A grand military demonstration; religious service at the cathedral, attended by the governor and the members of the legislature, and at the Dutch places of worship, where "God save the Queen" was heartily sung; a procession; a distribution of eight thousand medals to the school children, for whom entertainments were provided; dinners to the poor, and treats to the inmates of orphanages, hospitals, and asylums; the laying of a foundation-stone for a statue of her Majesty, for the expense of which £1200 had been collected,—were the chief features at Cape Town. At Pietermaritzburg a similar programme was observed, with the addition of a joy-dance by 3000 Kafirs in presence of the governor. In every church in Natal references were made to the Queen's Jubilee. At Pretoria, as elsewhere, the Boers joined with remarkable loyalty in the celebrations; at Kimberley the town council resolved to spend £3000 on the commemoration; and at a meeting of the Afrikander Bund at Uitenhage in March, an address to the Queen had been voted with enthusiasm.

That true and earnest loyalty should be manifested by the great and increasing colonies, where our Australian brethren had so recently proved their adhesion to the empire, was only to be expected, and that fervent expression of regard for the Queen which had been the message of the Australasian delegates to the Colonial Conference, was an earnest of the enthusiasm

by which the Jubilee of the reign of our Sovereign Lady was celebrated throughout Australia and New Zealand. In Sydney and Melbourne these celebrations, which may be said to have commenced on the Saturday before Jubilee day, were precisely similar in character to those observed in the great cities of the United Kingdom: in Sydney the aquatic sports and illuminations were a particular feature, and in both cities the provision made for charitable institutions and for the delight of the children showed that the same sentiments prevailed with the daughters and the mother country. On the Friday of the Jubilee week above 25,000 Sunday-school children assembled in the building of the exhibition soon to be opened in Melbourne, each scholar wearing a rosette and carrying a small flag. Having been thoroughly trained to form a vast choir on this occasion, these thousands of juveniles acquitted themselves in their singing magnificently. This gathering of Sunday-school children is acknowledged by many to have been the most striking and heart-touching scene in the entire round of Australian jubilation. On the same evening the various Protestant denominations joined in a thanksgiving service in the Melbourne Town-hall, the chair being taken by Sir James M'Bain; but great as is that hall, it was too small to admit all who wished to take part in the services, and therefore an overflow meeting assembled in the Collins Street Independent Church, about a hundred yards higher up that street. A statue of the Queen by Mr. Boehm has been placed opposite the New South Wales government buildings at Sydney.

At Ballarat all the observances that could distinguish a joyful celebration were carried out: a great procession of various "orders" and societies was formed, and foundation-stones of an art gallery, an Old Colonists' Hall, and a mining exchange

were well and truly laid. At Adelaide the opening of the Jubilee Exhibition was the great event, and may be said to have been the principal feature of the celebration in South Australia; and at Wellington, as throughout New Zealand, the commemorations and festivities were of the heartiest character, the loyalty and enthusiasm being shared by the natives. The same record can alone be used to indicate the demonstrations at Brisbane, and at Perth, and the other towns and communities of Western Australia.

In the vast and splendid territories which comprise the British Indian Empire the Jubilee of our Sovereign Lady, Queen, and Empress was observed with loyal rejoicing, but chiefly for climatic reasons the brilliant spectacles, illuminations, and principal out-door festivities of the native populations were mostly held at an earlier date. On the 16th of February the celebrations were enthusiastically observed throughout India: there were fireworks and illuminations in all the towns and principal cities, and money was subscribed for hospitals and other benevolent institutions; many native gentlemen distributed large quantities of food and clothing to the poor, and in several of the native states customs duties were abolished in commemoration of the Jubilee.

At Bombay the Duke and Duchess of Connaught took part in the public rejoicings before leaving to attend the Jubilee celebrations in London. A school feast was held on the Esplanade, where 18,000 children of all races and creeds feasted together. At Madras subscriptions were made, a large proportion of which were devoted to the Victoria Technical Institute and the Imperial Institute in London.

On the actual Jubilee day rejoicings and celebrations were repeated at the principal cities, where it was observed as a

public holiday, and was celebrated by reviews, assemblies, and illuminations. At Madras there was the unveiling of a statue of the Queen presented to the city by Rajah Gujupati Row, and the brilliant illuminations of the city and of the surf, which rolled in masses of golden fire, was witnessed by an immense concourse of people, and there, as elsewhere, works of charity and mercy and the foundation or completion of bridges, railways, and public buildings, formed part of the Jubilee commemoration.

But our chronicle is finished. We must turn our faces once more from the glowing East towards the abode of our Sovereign Lady, and on arriving at Southampton shall learn that the Channel Islands have by their representatives, the States Assemblies, sent loyal addresses, and that Jersey and Guernsey have kept the Jubilee in the same loyal fashions which have been adopted in almost every part of the Empire—fashions as old as the realm, and still so fresh and new as expressions of the sentiments of nations, that they take the forms of youth, and the younger members of the family of the great Empire adopt and maintain them.

There are but few more words to add, and let a critical though not ungenerous neighbour speak. M. John Lemoinne, writing in the *Débats* on the 20th of June, 1887, says:

“If we say that all England seems to have gone mad, we beg our neighbours and friends to take that expression in the most genial sense. We cordially envy them, and we would give a great deal could we ever be what they are to-day—a people mad with joy and happiness. Happy the people who, having a past of historical greatness, is able at a given day and a given hour to pour out from their inmost heart the same good wishes, sing in chorus the same hymn, and drink the same health in unison. There will not exist on that day one corner of the inhabited

globe in which ‘God save the Queen’ will not be sung by a whole people or by isolated individuals. The Jubilee is essentially an English *fête*, but as there are English all over the world the *fête* will be a universal one.”

This is not more than the truth, nor is it all. Not alone because there are English all over the world, but because the free institutions and humanizing influences which have followed and characterized the fifty years of Empire of our Sovereign Lady have taken hold of the hearts of all her subjects, even of those who are not of British race, we say to her:

“ Always thy quick and royal sympathy
Has gone out swiftly to the humblest home,
Wherever grief and pain and suffering come.
Therefore it is that we
Take thee for head and symbol of our name,
For fifty years of reign thou wert the same,
Therefore to-day we make our jubilee.”

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